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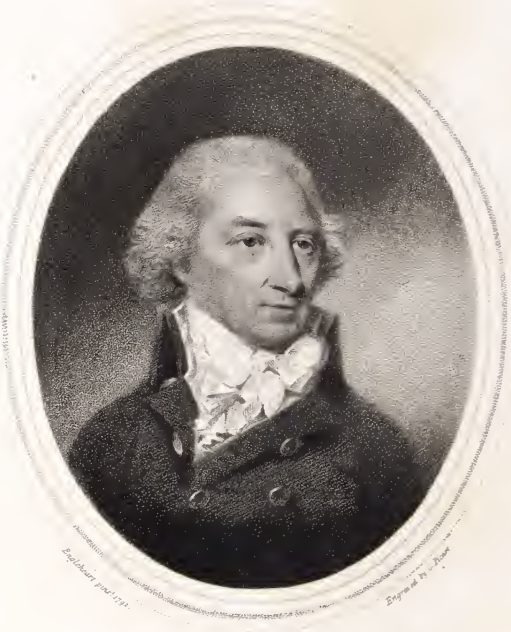


SIR GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON, BART.

LL.D. F.R.S. AET. 55.

Private Plate.

MEMOIR

OF THE

LIFE & FAMILY

OF THE LATE

SIR GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON, BART.

WITH AN APPENDIX,

CONSISTING OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND AUTHORITIES;

AND

A COPIOUS SELECTION FROM HIS PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

His various learning and elegant accomplishments attracted my attention and reverence; his long political career, ever marked by honor, integrity, talent and beneficence, was beheld by his numerous friends with delight and respect; and in these feelings....no one participated more than myself.

CHARLES BUTLER'S REMINISCENCES.

Havant Press:

PRINTED BY HENRY SKELTON, WEST STREET,

[FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY].

1823.

TO

CHARLES BUTLER, Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

LINCOLN'S INN.

My dear Sir,

I feel a peculiar pleasure in inscribing this Volume to you, as it affords me an appropriate opportunity of expressing my grateful sense of the illustrious testimony which you have given to my late dear Father's public character and private worth.

Sanctioned by the authority of a name so eminent and distinguished as your's, I no longer entertain any apprehension of having been misled by my private feelings; and I rely with confidence, that my Father's character and conduct through life, will be generally allowed to merit that degree of minute delineation with which, in the following Memoir, and copious selection from his correspondence, I have endeavoured, as far as my materials have enabled me, candidly to represent it to my own and his surviving friends.

I have introduced the subject with a short history of my Father's family, and of the individuals, who have conferred most honor on his name in former times, compiled from the best authorities, most of which have been subjoined in an Appendix: and I trust that the curiosity of the record of a descent, at once so ancient and so well authenticated, will be accepted as a sufficient apology for having entered more fully into details of this nature, than they generally may be considered to deserve.

I cannot conclude this letter, without requesting of you to believe, that I am not insensible to the truly flattering and gratifying expressions, which your kind partiality has prompted you to employ respecting myself, although they have necessarily been omitted in my quotation.

I have the honor to be,
my dear Sir,
with sincere respect and regard,
most faithfully your's,
GEORGE THOMAS STAUNTON.

Portland Place,
March 15th, 1823.

CONTENTS.

MEMOIR, - - - - - - - page 1

APPENDIX.

I.

EXTRACT from Throsby's Edition of Thoroton's Nottinghamshire, vol. I. *p.* 305—319 - - - - - 61

II.

Extracts from the Harleian Manuscripts, preserved in the British Museum - - - - - - - 97

III.

Extracts from Madox's Firma Burgi, edition of 1726 101

IV.

Extracts from Dugdale's Origines Juridiciales - 103

V.

Extracts from the Calendarium Inquisitionum Post Mortem, Abbreviatio Rotulorum Originalium, et Testa de Nevill 104

VI.

Genealogy of the Stauntons of Bedfordshire, from the Longbridge Papers - - - - - - - 111

VII.

Genealogy of Stauntons of Galway, from Papers of the late Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. - - - - - 114

VIII.

Note of Probates of Wills, in Prerogative Court of York, 115

IX.

Extracts from the History of the Life of Dr. Edm. Staunton, D. D. - - - - - - - - 116

X.

Extract from the Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson - 121

XI.
Epitaph on a Monument in the Church at Staunton 122

XII.
Extract from Dugdale's Warwickshire, ed. 1730 - 123

XIII.
Extract from Dyer's History of University of Cambridge 124

XIV.
Extract from the Beauties of England and Wales - 126

XV.
Original Note on the Name of Stanton or Staunton - 129

XVI.
Original Note on the Arms of Staunton of Staunton 131

XVII.
Copy of Patent of Arms, from Lyon Office, 1817 - 133

XVIII.
Miscellaneous Extracts from the Longbridge Papers 135

XIX.
Extract from Playfair's Family Antiquity - - 137

XX.
Genealogy of the Staunton Family, from the Papers of Dr. Staunton, of Staunton Hall - - - - - 146

XXI.
Genealogy of the Stauntons of Longbridge, from the Longbridge Papers - - - - - - - 153

XXII.
Extract from Peck's Siege of Belvoir - - - 155

XXIII.
Epitaph on the late Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. by John Christian Hüttner, esq. - - - 156

XXIV.

Selection from Correspondence, commencing with 1753.

1. George Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Father and Mother. Toulouse, May 2, 1753 (An. Æt. 17) 159
2. The same to the same. Toulouse, Dec. 5th. - 160
3. The same to the same. Montpellier, Sep. 26, 1754 165
4. Edward Blakeney, esq. to Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. Montpellier, Jan. 17th, 1755 - - - 169
5. George Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Father and Mother. Montpellier, Jan. 31st, 1755 - - - 170
6. The same to the same. Feb. 11th 1756 - 173
7. The same to the same. Oct. 15th, 1758 - 176
8. The same to the same. Paris, Nov. 29th, 1758 177
9. The same to his Sister, Miss Margaret Staunton. London, Feb 15, 1760 - - - - - - 178
10. The same to the same. March 20th, 1760 - 182
11. The same to the same. May 6th, 1760 - - 184
12. The same to his Brother Aylward. June, 26th, 1760 ib.
13. The same to the same. July 26th, 1760 - 187
14. The same to the same. Sept. 30th, 1760. - ib.
15. The same to the same. Oct. 30th, 1760. - 189
16. The same to the same. Dec. 11th, 1760. - 190
17. The same to his sister Margaret. March 18th, 1761 191
18. The same to the same. June 13th, 1761 - ib.
19. The same to the same. Bristol, July 2nd, 1762 192
20. John Nelson, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Charles Town, Feb. 18th, 1766 - - - 195
21. Geo. L. Staunton, esq. to John Nelson, esq. Dominica, Feb. 19th, 1766 - - - - - 196
22. John Nelson, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Dominica, Feb. 19th, 1766 - - - 198

23. George Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Sister Margaret. London, Nov. 15th, 1767 - - - - 200
24. The same to the same. Dec. 1st, 1767 - - 201
25. The same to his Parents. London, Dec. 5th, 1767 203
26. The same to his Sister Margaret. Dublin, Jan. 9th 1768 - - - - - - - - - 204
27. The same to the same. Bristol, March 15th, 1768 205
28. The same to the same. London, March 29th, —— ib.
29. The same to the same. ——— April 20th, —— 207
30. The same to the same. Grenada, July 26th, —— 208
31. The same to the same. Barbadoes, May 1st, 1769 209
32. The same to his Parents. Wallop, Hants, Sept. 12th, 1771 - - - - - - - - ib.
33. The same to the same. Fortune Castle, Grenada, July 20th, 1773 - - - - - 211
34. The same to his sister, Mrs. Blake. Fortune Castle, Grenada: not dated - - - - - 212
35. The same to his parents. Grenada, July 31st, 1775 213
36. The same to the same. Grenada, April 4th, 1777 214
37. The same to the same. -——— June 4th, 1779 215
38. M. G. Dumont à M. Le Febre de Bazagny. Grenada, July 22nd, 1779 - - - - - ib.
39. Le Comte Dillon a M. le duc de Lauzun, July 24, 216
40. M. Lescallier a M. le duc de Nivernois, July 25, 217
41. M. St. Laurent a M. le chev. Lambert, ——— 218
42. ——————— a M. Valmont de Baumare ——— ib.
43. ——————— a M. de la Lande, ——— 219
44. M. de Gannes a M. le Marq. de Paulugny, July 26 221
45 Hugh Conway, esq. to M. le Comte de Cleonard, July 27, 1779, - - - - - - - - 222
46. Gentlemen of Grenada to George Leonard Staunton, esq. July 28th, 1779 - - - - - 223
47. Extract from from Mr. Walker's Journal - - 224

48. George Leonard Staunton, esq. to M. de Gannes, St. Domingo, Aug. 13th, 1779 - - 227
49. The same to M. de la Touche. Menagere, Oct. 27th 229
50. The same to M. de Gannes. Rochelle, Nov. 27th, 230
51. Benjamin Collins, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Salisbury, Dec. 7th, - - - - - 234
52. Lord Macartney to the same. Paris, Oct. 25th, 235
53. The same to the same. Lissanoure, Jan. 1st 1780 236
54. Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Staunton to Mrs. Collins. Paris, Jan. 18th, - - - - - - - 239
55. Geo. Leonard Staunton, esq. to Mrs. Collins. Harwich, April 22nd, - - - - - - - 248
56. Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq. London, March 19th, - - - - - 249
57. Richard Burke, esq. to the same. Plymouth, Aug. 19, 251
58. Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. to the same. London, Sept. 15th, - - - - - - - 253
59. Lord Macartney to the same. Buckingham, Sept. 18, 254
60. Mr. (afterwards Sir Arthur) Piggott to the same. London, Jan. 1, 1781 - - - - - - - 255
61. J. Stuart, esq. to the same. Jan. 5th, - - 256
62. Governor William Stuart to the same. March 2nd, 257
63. Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. to the same. March 3, 258
64. Rev. P. B. Brodie to the same. June 3rd, - 259
65. George Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Parents. Madras, June 25th, - - - - - - - 260
66. Hugh Boyd, esq. to Geo. Leonard Staunton, esq. Nagore, Oct. 21st, - - - - - - - 262
67. Edmund Burke, esq. to the same. London, Dec. 3rd, 263
68. Geo. Leo. Staunton, esq. to Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. Madras, Jan, 28th, 1782. - - - . 264
69. The same to Lord Macartney. Calcutta, Feb 24th, 265
70. The same to John Squire, esq. Madras, Nov. 6th, 266

71. The same to Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Staunton. Nov. 6th, 267
72. Samuel Johnston, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Calcutta, Jan. 14th, 1783 - - - - 269
73. John Hudleston, esq. to the same. Madras, July 8th, ib.
74. Lord Macartney to the Right Hon. C. J. Fox. Aug. 5th, - - - - - - - 270
75. Account of the Arrest of General Stuart. Sept. 17th 272
76. Governor and Council of Fort St. George to the Court of Directors. Sep. 30th, - - - - 277
77. Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Fort St. George, Nov. 26th, - - - 281
78. The same to the same. Nov. 27th - - 282
79. Peter Walker, esq. to Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Staunton. Dec. 3rd - - - - - - - 283
80. Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Dec. 27th, - - - - - - 286
81. The same to the same. Dec. 29th, - - 287
82. T. Staunton, esq. M. P. to the same. Jan. 1st, 1784 288
83. Lord Macartney to the same. Feb. 9th, —— 289
84. The same to the same. —— 21st, —— 291
85. The same to the same. March 1st, —— 292
86. George Leonard Staunton, esq. to T. Staunton, esq. M. P. March 18th, - - - - - - - 293
87. Lord Macartney to the Court of Directors. July 28, 294
88. Extract from Proceedings, &c. of Government of Fort St. George, July 28th - - - - 295
89. Lord Macartney to the Rt. Hon. C. J. Fox. July 28, 296
90. Eyles Erwin, esq. to Robert Gregory, esq. Aug. 1st, 298
91. Colonel Fullarton to Sir A. Macdonald. Aug 11th, 300
92. Edmund Burke, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq. Beaconsfield, April 7th, 1785 - - 301
93. The same to the same. June. 7th, - - 302
94. The same to the same. ——15th, - 304

95. The same to the same. July 6th, —— - 305
96. Lord Earlsfort to the same. Oct 18th, 1785 - ib.
97. Archbishop of Cashel to the same. Nov. 17th, 307
98. Marquis of Lothian to the same. Dec. 9th, —— 308
99. Lady Staunton to Mrs. Collins. Jan. 28th, 1786 ib.
100. Lord Macartney to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. - - - - - - - Sept. 5, 1787 310
101. The same to the same. March 26th, 1788 - 311
102. Sir G. L. Staunton to Sir John Menzies. April 10th 312
103. Memorandum on Education. May 27th. - 316
104. Lord Macartney to Rt. Hon. W. Pitt. Oct. 22nd, 320
105. The same to Sir Geo. L. Staunton. Aug. 8, 1789 321
106. The same to the same. - - Oct. 10th,—— 322
107. Sir G. L. Staunton to Mr. (afterwards Sir Arthur) Piggott. Oct. 22d, - - - - - 324
108. Lord Macartney to Sir George Leonard Staunton. - - - - - - Nov. 8th, 325
109. William Ross, esq. to Thomas Cockburn and Josiah Webber, esqrs. May 10th, 1790 - - 327
110. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. to Sir George Leonard Staunton. - - - - - June 19th, 329
111. Lord Macartney to the same. Dec. 19th, - 330
112. The same to the same. Oct. 22nd, 1791 - 332
113. Professor Afzelius to the same Oct. 27th, - 333
114. Sir G. L. Staunton, Bart. to Dr. Egan. Dec. 11th, 337
115. Lord Macartney to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. Dec. 18th, - - - - - 337
116. The same to the same. Jan. 21, 1792 - 338
117. Sir George Leo. Staunton, Bart. to B. C. Collins. esq. Cologne, May 9th, - - - - - 341
118. Letter of Credentials to the Princes of Asia. Aug. 26, 343
119. Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. to A. Piggot, esq. afterwards Sir A. Piggot. Sep. 21st, - 348

120. A. Piggot, esq. to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. Dec. 16th, - - - - - - - 349
121. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. to the same. Feb. 24, 1793 351
122. Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. to Dr. Egan. Dec. 28th, 1794 - - - - - 353
123. The same to the Viceroy of Canton. June 20, 1795, 356
124. Lord Macartney to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. Verona, Dec. 20th, - - - - - 357
125. The same to the same. Jan. 10th, 1796. - 359
126. Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. to his Son. Aug. 5th, - - - - - - - - 364
127. The same to the same. Sept. 2nd, - - 366
128. The same to the same. Nov. 8th, - 368
129. The same to the same. July 27th, 1797 - 369
130. Duke of Portland to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. July 28th, - - - - - - - ib.
131. Sir I. Macpherson, Bart. to the same. July 30th, 370
132. Marquis of Lothian to the same Aug. 6th, - 371
133. Warren Hastings, esq. to the same. Aug. 8th, 372
134. Marquis of Lansdown to the same. —— 15th, 373
135. Earl of Moira, now Marquis of Hastings, to the same. Sept. 2nd, - - - - - - - 374
136. Lord Macartney to the same. Dec. 15th, 1797, and March 2nd, 1798 - - - - - 375
137. The same to the same. July 1st, 1798 - 377
138. Sir George L. Staunton to his son. Juue 19, 1799, 380
139. Earl Macartney to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. Oct. 1800 - - - - - - 382
140. The same to George Thos. Staunton, esq. Nov. 383
141. Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart to B. C. Collins, esq. Jan. 2nd, 1801 - - - - - 385
142. Earl Macartney to Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. Jan. 12th, - - - - - - - 386

143. Benjamin Charles Collins, esq. to Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart. Jan. 29th, - - - ib.
144. Earl Macartney to the same. Feb. 3rd, - 388
145. Arthur Piggot, esq. (afterwards Sir A. Piggot.) to the same. Feb. 3rd - - 390
146. John Christian Hüttner, esq. to the same. May 5, 392
147. John Barrow, esq. to the same. Cape of Good Hope, July 14th, - - - - - - - 394
148. John Hudleston, esq. to the Court of Directors of the East India Company. May 31st, 1818 - 395
149. Extract from the speech of Randle Jackson, esq. in the Court of East India Proprietors. Dec. 16th, 397
150. John Symmons, esq. to Sir George Thos. Staunton, Bart. Feb. 8th, 1823. - - - - - 398

List of Plates and Tables.

Portrait of Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. *to face Title.*
Table of the Arms and Genealogy of Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. certified with the seal of the College at Arms, - - - - - - *to face p.* 58
View of the North Front of Staunton Hall at Staunton, Nottinghamshire, the seat of Dr. Staunton, - - 128
Ensigns Armorial of Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart. according to the Patent of 1817, - - 134
Table of the Longbridge Genealogy, - - - 154
Vignette from Sir G. L. Staunton's Account of Lord Macartney's Embassy to China, - - - 370

MEMOIR.

Sir George Leonard Staunton, Baronet, was the eldest and only surviving son of Colonel George Staunton of Cargin, in the county of Galway, Ireland; by Margaret, daughter of John Leonard, esq. of Carra, in the same county.

The history of Sir George's family may be traced back with singular precision, and on the authority of public as well as private documents of the most unquestionable authenticity, through a long line of honorable ancestors, to a period antecedent to the Conquest.

Colonel George Staunton, already mentioned, was the eldest son of George Staunton, esq. of Cargin, sheriff of Galway, in 1731; grandson of George Staunton, esq. of Waterdale and Cargin, in the same county; and great-grandson of George, (the second son of Reginald Staunton, of Smewens Grange, in the county of Buckingham) who, having gone over to Ireland with his regiment in the year 1634, settled in the county of Galway, and became possessed of considerable landed property in that part of the kingdom. He also gradually acquired an extensive local influence; and, from the period of the Revolution in 1688, the Stauntons, his descendants, became, as observed in Hardiman's History, p. 187, one of the four leading families, which successively commanded the representation, and directed the affairs of the town of Galway, during the greater part of the eighteenth century.

It is also to be noticed, to their honor, that they were generally the leaders of the moderate party in the corporation; which, commiserating the distressed condition of the catholic inhabitants, advocated milder measures than their opponents; and, for the purpose of counteract-

ing the extreme severities of the then existing laws, admitted several persons, not residing in the town, to its freedom and privileges*. This however, was no doubt irregular; for the adverse party having, in the year 1717, petitioned Parliament against John Staunton, esq. one of the representatives for the town, and Robert Cotes, esq. the mayor, for having adopted this and other measures of a similar tendency, they succeeded in obtaining a new act for the stricter government of the town, by which it was for some time after regulated; but which, as Hardiman adds, the increasing liberality of succeeding times has rendered of little other use, at the present day, than to become a subject of historical narration, and to remain a lasting memorial of the illiberal feelings which predominated at that unhappy period.

In the year 1764, six individuals of the Staunton family still appeared upon the list of the common council of the town of Galway. One of these held the distinguished office of Recorder; another, (the son of the member petitioned against, in 1717) represented the town in the Irish Parliament; and a third, (the father of the subject of this Memoir) was colonel of the town militia.

* Hardiman's History of Galway, *p.* 170—174.

Reginald Staunton esq. of Smewens Grange, in the county of Buckingham, (from whose second son, George, as already observed, the Stauntons of Ireland are descended) was the only son of Edmund Staunton esq. of Smewens, by Elizabeth, daughter of Reginald, second brother of Edmund Lord Bray. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Anthony Shuckborough, of Shuckborough, esq. ancestor of the present baronet of that name. The manor and estate of Smewens, which he inherited from his father, had originally been a part of the abbey lands of Woburn; and were purchased by his grandfather Edward, under the authority of a special grant from King Edward VI. —This ancient family property descended, through his eldest son, Anthony, to his grandson of the same name, and afterwards, in default of issue male, to his great-grand-daughter Elizabeth, wife of James Stokes, esq. who, in the year 1717, conveyed the same to her cousin John Staunton, esq. the member of parliament for Galway, already mentioned; in whose branch of the family it remained till the year 1792, when it was sold to Edward Hanmer, esq. of Stockgrove.

Edward Staunton esq. the purchaser of the Smewens estate, as above mentioned, was

the eldest son of John, the second surviving son of Thomas Staunton esq. of Staunton, in the county of Nottingham*. This Thomas Staunton, was the ninth in direct lineal descent from Sir Malger de Staunton (from whom he also inherited his estate at Staunton) a brave and distinguished Saxon knight, who defended Belvoir Castle against the forces of William the Conqueror; and after whom the chief tower of that fortress is still named STAUNTON tower.

The certified genealogy, extracted from the Records of the Heralds office in the year 1792, and annexed to this Memoir, commences with Sir Malger de Staunton, whose

* Thomas Staunton, of Staunton, who died in 1482, had five sons, but only two of them, Thomas and John, left issue. Playfair, in his Family Antiquity, appears to be of opinion that John was the elder of the two (see App. *p.* 141), and the Genealogy in Thoroton (App. *p.* 93) certainly countenances the supposition; but, as John did not in point of fact succeed to the possession of the manor and estate of Staunton, as in that case he ought to have done, and as he is specially described as the *yonger sonn*, in the Heraldic Visitation of the county of Buckingham (App. *p.* 99), and in the Longbridge M.S.S. (App. *p.* 112), and in the Staunton M.S.S. (App. *p.* 151), as well as *implied* to be so, in the certified Genealogy annexed to this Memoir, the latter authorities have been considered to preponderate.

son, Sir Malger, is therein stated to have married Beatrix, the daughter of the lord of Belvoir; but the Record of the Visitation of Nottinghamshire, in the year 1569, preserved among the Harl. Mss. in the British Museum, carries this genealogy two generations higher, and names Sir Bryan de Staunton, as the first resident at Staunton, in the year 1047, the 6th of the reign of Edward the Confessor.

The Stauntons of Staunton, in Nottinghamshire, became extinct in the male line by the death of Harvey Staunton without male issue, in the seventeenth century; and the Stauntons of Smewens, in Buckinghamshire, also became extinct in the male line about the same period. Upon the death, therefore, without male issue, in the year 1784, of Thomas Staunton, esq. of Sibton Park, Suffolk, late member for Ipswich in the English, and Galway in the Irish Parliament, who represented the eldest branch of the Stauntons of Ireland, Sir George succeeded as the next representative in the male line of this ancient family.

The original family estate at Staunton, in Nottinghamshire, descended to Anne, the eld-

est and last surviving daughter of Job Staunton Charlton, member for Newark, and grandson of Job Charlton, of Ludford in Herefordshire, by Anne eldest daughter of Harvey Staunton, in whom, as already mentioned, this branch had become extinct in the male line. This lady died on the 11th of April, 1807, and left her Staunton estate to her second cousin, Elizabeth, daughter of Job Brough, esq. and wife of the Rev. J. Aspinshaw, LL. D. and directed by her last will and testament, that they and their issue should take the name, and bear the arms, of Staunton only.

In the year 1814, the Rev. Dr. Staunton, (to whose kindness the Editor is indebted for the article XX. in the Appendix,) had the honor, by virtue of his tenure of Castle guard, of presenting to his present Majesty, at that time Prince Regent, and a visitor at Belvoir Castle, the gold key of the Staunton Tower; which, as already mentioned, had been defended by the first Sir Malger, against the forces of William the Conqueror.

The Stauntons of Longbridge and of Wolverton, in Warwickshire, are undoubtedly descended likewise from the Stauntons of

Staunton, in Nottinghamshire. The former family has been settled at Longbridge ever since the year 1461, the 39th of Henry VI. as is proved by an original deed of that date, in the hands of the present inheritor. The Wolverton family, which is the younger branch, was settled at that place, by purchase of an estate there, in the 18th of Elizabeth, and became extinct in the last century. The Longbridge, or elder branch, is at present worthily represented by William Staunton esq. of Longbridge; to whom the Editor of this volume is indebted for many valuable and interesting communications, most of which will be found in the Appendix.

Hervicus de Staunton, was chief justice of the court of King's Bench, and chief baron of the Exchequer, in the reign of Edward II. and was also the founder of Saint Michael's House (now included in Trinity College) in the university of Cambridge. He was also a lord of Parliament, but died without issue; and the barony of Staunton, Lord de Staunton, is stated in Debrett's Peerage to have become extinct in 1316.—Hervicus de Staunton was, however, certainly living in 1327, as his appointment to the office of lord chief Justice

of the court of King's Bench (of which the record is preserved in Dugdale's Origines Juridiciales) bears that date.

The accounts which have been handed down to us of this distinguished person, as might have been expected, considering the remoteness of the age in which he lived, are in some respects contradictory. Several very high authorities to which references are given in the course of this volume, describe him as the brother of Sir Geoffrey, and the great-grandson of the first Sir Malger, whereas an entry respecting him in a book preserved in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, and considered there to be of authority, asserts that he was born in Suffolk, and of a Suffolk family, altogether unconnected with the Stauntons of Nottinghamshire. In Dyer's History of the University of Cambridge he is spoken of as "Hervey of Staunton, *priest*," whereas in an ancient M.S.S. pedigree in the possession of the Editor, he is specially designated "*miles;*" and in the following lines, extracted from a rhyming pedigree of the family, written about the close of the sixteenth century, and published by Thoroton, in his History of Nottinghamshire, it is clearly implied that he was one of the laity.

And Sir Henrie his brother was,
Who gave himselfe to learne,
That when he came unto man's state,
He could the Lawes discerne.

And in the same went forward still,
And profited muche, I know,
At Ynnes of Courte a Counsailer
And Serjeant in the Lawe.

And in processe of tyme indeede,
A judge he came to bee
In the Common Benche, at *Westminster*,
Such was his highe degree.

A baron wise, and of great wealthe,
Who built for scholer's gaine,
Sainct *Michael's* House, in *Cambridge* towne,
Good learninge to attaine;

Which deed was done in the eighteenth yeare
Of second EDWARDE, King,
One thousande three hundred twenty-foure,
For whom they pray and singe.

In which said house the *Stauntons* may
Send students to be placed,
The founder hath confirmed the same,
It cannot be defaced.

This Lord Baron no yssue had,
We cannot remember his wife,
Nor where his body tombed was
When death had cut off life.

vol. I. p. 311.

Sir William de Staunton, the son of Sir Geoffrey, and (according to the Herald's College) nephew of Hervicus, was a man much engaged in the military and political transactions of the times in which he lived, and was a great favorite of King Edward I. who took him under his especial protection; and he accompanied that monarch to France in his visits to his states of Guienne and Anjou, in 1286, and again to Flanders, in 1298, to assist the Flemingers.

He married Isabella, sister of Sir Ralph de Kirketon, knight, from whom he received all his lands, rents, and services, in Kilvington and Wilberdeston, together with the right of patronage of the church of Kilvington. He made his will the 9th of November, 1312; wherein he gave his body to be buried in the church yard of Saint Mary of Staunton, bequeathing with it his palfrey with its furniture; and died in 1326. His grandson, Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, was sheriff of Nottingham and Derby, in the reign of Edward III.

Dr. Edmund Staunton, d. d. nephew of Reginald Staunton already mentioned, was vicar of Kingston-upon-Thames in 1632, and

afterwards president of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He was one of the Assembly of Divines, and a zealous writer upon the religious questions which were agitated in that age. He died in 1671: and in 1673, an account of his life and death was published by the Rev. Richard Mayo, his curate, and successor in the living of Kingston.

Colonel William Staunton, the father of Harvey Staunton, esq. already mentioned, accompanied King Charles I. to the battle of Edge-hill, and afterwards was a colonel in the garrison of Newark, which considerably impaired his estate; as did also the parliament forces, when at Staunton Hall, in which house they were for some time quartered. He died in 1656.

Thomas Staunton, esq. of Stockgrove and Smewens, in Buckinghamshire, and Holbrook and Sibton Park, in Suffolk, already mentioned, was the eldest and only surviving son of John Staunton, of Oldbury, in the county of Galway, esq. member for that town, and of Bridget, daughter of Edward Donnellan, esq. of Ballydonnellan. He succeeded his father in representing the

town of Galway, in the Irish Parliament, and some time after was elected member for Ipswich, in the English Parliament; which town he continued to represent in several successive parliaments, until within a few months of his death, which took place on the 1st of October, 1784. He was a man of considerable learning and ability, was much esteemed in the extensive circle of his acquaintance and connections, and was considered a very respectable speaker in the house of commons. He always entertained a sincere personal regard for his cousin Sir George, the chief subject of this Memoir; and was one of the godfathers of his son.

He married, first, Jane, daughter of Henry Vane, first earl of Darlington, by whom he had a son, John, who died unmarried; and a daughter, Bettenson, who likewise died unmarried on the 12th of February, 1811. He married, secondly, Catherine, daughter of Thomas Thurston, esq. and relict of William Peck, esq. of Samford Hall, in the county of Essex, by whom he had a daughter, Elizabeth Catharine, (who married in 1785, James Cumberland Bentley, esq. and died without issue in March, 1810;) and Thomas, a son who died before his

father, leaving issue by his wife Mary, daughter of —— Tinling, esq. two daughters, Mary and Margaret; the former married in 1794, Richard Stainforth, esq. of Hutton Lodge, in the county of York, and has issue, George and other children; the latter married the Rev. Dr. Woodcock, D. D. Rector of Mitchelmarsh, in Hampshire; and has issue, one daughter.

Sir George Leonard Staunton was born on the 19th of April, 1737, at his father's house at Cargin, in the county of Galway; where his family continued to reside till the year 1747, when they removed to the town of Galway, in consequence of the Cargin estate having been conveyed for a term of years to to Robert French, esq. for the purpose of raising a sum of money for the payment of the portions of his grandfather's younger children, agreeably to the provisions of an original deed of settlement in 1700. Sir George succeeded to this estate by inheritance upon the death of his father, in the year 1780; and having purchased from Mr. French, the remainder of his term, he entered into possession of it in the year 1785.

This property was purchased by his ancestor George Staunton (the second of his family who resided in Ireland) in the year 1676.—The estate of Cargin (which, including the adjacent lands of Kilbeg, contains altogether 1169 English acres) is agreeably situated on the banks of Loch Corrib, and comprises within its bounds the wood of Clydagh, one of the finest in that part of the country.

Sir George received his early education partly in Galway, and partly in Dublin, until he entered his sixteenth year, when the alarming symptoms of a rapidly approaching consumption (a complaint of which his younger and only brother, Aylward, died a few years after) rendered an immediate removal to a warmer climate absolutely necessary; as it was considered to afford the only chance for the preservation of his life. He accordingly embarked for the Continent, and landed at Bourdeaux, on the 21st of April, 1753, just as he had completed his sixteenth year. He proceeded in the first instance to Thoulouse, where he pursued his studies for some time with great assiduity, and then finally removed to Montpellier, where he arrived on the 16th of July, 1754. His compulsory absence from his native country, for some years, on

account of his health, and the necessity he was under of following some profession, during the embarrassed state of his father's affairs, in consequence of being deprived of the use and rents of his Cargin estate, as already mentioned, decided him in favor of that of medicine, which at that period was studied with peculiar advantages on the Continent.

Sir George's letters to his parents, during this his first visit to the Continent, written while from sixteen to twenty-one years of age, a few of which have been preserved, and are inserted in this volume, give a pleasing picture of his studies and pursuits; and will be readily admitted to afford some evidence of those talents and virtues by which he afterwards became distinguished. He returned to England in the year 1760, and resided for some time in London, where he occupied himself in contributing some valuable essays to the periodical publications of that day, and formed an acquaintance with many of the most eminent literary characters of the time, especially Dr. Johnson, who wrote to him the following affectionate valedictory letter, upon his embarkation for the West Indies, in the year 1762:—

Dr. Samuel Johnson to Dr. (afterwards Sir George Leonard) Staunton.

" London, June the 1st, 1762.

Dear Sir,

I make haste to answer your kind letter, in hope of hearing again from you before you leave us. I cannot but regret that a man of your qualifications should find it necessary to seek an establishment in Guadaloupe, which, if a peace should restore to the French, I shall think it some alleviation of the loss, that it must restore likewise Dr. Staunton to the English.

It is a melancholy consideration, that so much of our time is necessarily to be spent upon the care of living, and that we can seldom obtain ease in one respect but by resigning it in another; yet I suppose we are by this dispensation not less happy on the whole, than if the spontaneous bounty of nature poured all that we want into our hands. A few, if they were thus left to themselves, would, perhaps, spend their time in laudable pursuits; but the greater part would prey upon the quiet of each other, or, in the want of other objects, would prey upon themselves.

This, however, is our condition, which we must improve and solace as we can: and

though we cannot choose always our place of residence, we may in every place find rational amusements, and possess in every place the comforts of piety and a pure conscience.

In America there is little to be observed except natural curiosities. The new world must have many vegetables and animals with which philosophers are but little acquainted. I hope you will furnish yourself with some books of natural history, and some glasses, and other instruments of observation. Trust as little as you can to report; examine all you can by your own senses. I do not doubt but you will be able to add much to knowledge, and, perhaps, to medicine. Wild nations trust to simples; and, perhaps, the Peruvian bark is not the only specific which those extensive regions may afford us.

Wherever you are, and whatever be your fortune, be certain, dear Sir, that you carry with you my kind wishes; and that whether you return hither, or stay in the other hemisphere, to hear that you are happy will give pleasure to,

Sir,

Your most affectionate
humble servant,
SAMUEL JOHNSON."

It is to be regretted that so few memorials are extant of Sir George's conduct and pursuits, his talents and his genius, at this early period of his history; but the preceding elegant and affectionate letter to him, which was first published in Boswell's Life of Johnson, and of which the original is still in the possession of the Editor, in some measure makes amends for the deficiency. It is surely no common proof of merit to have obtained at the early age of six-and-twenty, the esteem and friendship of that great man, in the remarkable degree which this letter evinces.

Sir George (then Dr.) Staunton practised as a physician for a short time in the West Indies; but he held also during his residence there several official situations of importance in more than one of the islands. He was for some time secretary to the governor of Dominica; during which period three letters passed between him and a gentleman of the name of Nelson, which have accidently been preserved, and are inserted in this volume, as exhibiting the natural sentiments of a truly honorable yet feeling mind, upon the delicate subject of duelling. In this case a reconciliation took place, but the spirit of party, which

ran at that period extremely high in the islands, and the envy which his talents and consequent influence excited, involved him in other quarrels, which did not terminate as amicably, and in one instance he was severely wounded; but he had happily never to answer, upon the occasion of any such contest, for the life of a fellow creature.

In one of his letters to his sister, dated in March, 1770, he thus feelingly deplores the existence of those party disputes, in which he was, so much to his regret, involved.

"To this, and many other diminutions of my small fortune, are to be added every vexation and torture of mind that can be occasioned by parties of men, who would see my ruin with pleasure, because I have had unluckily too much influence, and more than I desired, in managing the affairs of these islands."

Sir George was amply compensated for this species of hostility on one side, by the enjoyment of the esteem and confidence of all the most respectable inhabitants on the other; as some of the letters which happen to have been preserved, and are recorded in this

volume, will testify; but, disgusted probably with the excesses of party, and having accumulated a competent fortune, which he invested in estates, purchased in the island of Grenada, he retired to England in the latter end of the year 1770.

On the 22d of July, in the following year, he married Jane, second daughter of Benjamin Collins, esq. of Milford, near Salisbury, and an eminent banker in that city; a gentleman whose distinguished talents and popular manners procured for him the unsolicited invitation of his fellow citizens of Shaftesbury, to represent that borough in parliament; which however, to the regret of his friends, his modesty, and attachment to a country life, induced him to decline.

Sir George resided with his lady for a short time after their marriage, at Middle Wallop, in Hampshire; but his intention of then settling permanently in England was, unfortunately, very soon defeated by the mismanagement of the agents to whom he had confided his estates in the West Indies; and he was in consequence under the necessity of returning in March, 1772, to the island of

Grenada, where he continued to reside with his family, until the capture of that island by the French in the year 1779. In the course of this period he was enabled in great measure to re-establish his affairs: and having devoted himself to the profession of the law, which was far more congenial to his talents and habits than that of medicine, he was eminently successful, and was latterly appointed by his Majesty Attorney-General of the island.

A considerable collection of his legal notes, made at this period, is still extant, and although chiefly relating to topics of a local nature, arising out of the execution or interpretation of the acts of the colonial legislatures, are evidence of his singular acumen and extensive learning, in this, no less than in other branches of knowledge.

When he finally quitted the legal profession, he presented the principal part of his law library to his early and intimate friend, the late Sir Arthur Piggott; who, in his letter of thanks upon the occasion, printed in the appendix, pays a well merited compliment to that diligence and sagacity, which had enabled him to avail himself of his library with so much reputation and success.

In the year 1774, the late earl of Macartney was appointed governor of Grenada: and from this period is to be dated that confidential intimacy and friendship which was formed between his Lordship and Sir George; which subsequently united them in a series of public duties of high importance, in various quarters of the globe; and which never ceased during the lives of the parties. Sir George's pre-established influence, and public character in Grenada, were such as to render his support and co-operation in the administration of the affairs of the island, of essential advantage to the new governor; and these and other services (as the subjoined letters partly shew) his lordship always readily and affectionately acknowledged.

Mr. Barrow, in his "Life of lord Macartney," observes, that his lordship on his arrival at Grenada "found the island distracted by party feuds, which, in a great degree, had destroyed its credit, diminished its resources, and impeded its general welfare; there was the Scotch party and the French party. The former was inveterate against the latter, because they were papists, and these bore no less hatred to the others, because they were con-

sidered as intruders.—Of the two, the *odium theologicum* of the Scotch was the most violent and the most difficult to conciliate. Their zeal had driven them so far as to threaten the demolition of all the French churches on the island; and so violent was the spirit of enthusiasm, which operated in the cause of the church of Scotland, and so rancorous the hatred against the catholic religion, that this pious intention would, in all probability, have been carried into execution long before the arrival of his lordship, had not Mr., afterwards Sir George Staunton, an advocate, and member of the council, whose benevolent mind was always ready to afford an active assistance to the oppressed, stepped forward to interpose his good offices between the contending parties, and to prevent at least their proceeding to this last shameful extremity." *vol.* i. *p.* 52.

When the island was captured by the French forces, in the year 1779, under the command of Count D'Estaing, Sir George proved himself an able assistant, in his military capacity of colonel of militia, to Lord Macartney, in his ever memorable defence of the capital of the island*. The circumstances which at-

* See Playfair's Family Antiquity, *p.* 341.

tended the capture of the island are thus described by Sir George himself, in a letter written by him to one of his friends, only a few days after the event.

"Grenada, July 14, 1779.

Dear Sir,

The island of Grenada was invested and attacked the 2nd instant by the forces of Count D'Estaing. He summoned the governor to surrender under severe menaces. The governor endeavoured, though in vain, to gain time. He expected every instant to see admiral Byron and general Grant come to his relief. They knew of his danger. Admiral Byron had returned from escorting the fleet to England out of danger to St. Lucie, the 1st inst. If he could have sailed from thence that day, or even the next, this island might still be English. Count D'Estaing lost no time in his attacks, and on the 5th instant our chief place of strength was taken by storm. After a resistance, applauded by our conquerors, the governor sent me to the Count D'Estaing to treat on the terms of capitulation; but all negotiation was vain; for the count had his terms ready prepared long since in Martinique, and would not deviate from

them. The chief English inhabitants who were consulted, unanimously preferred a surrender at discretion—rather than by subscribing to such terms, to put their lives in danger by their own consent. Their properties are confirmed to them under the French laws, I mean what remains to them; for many have been totally pillaged and ruined, and I am among the chief sufferers, my plantation being close to the place of debarkation, and attracting the immediate attention of all the free booters following the fleet and army. Lord Macartney has employed himself to the utmost, in favor of all the English.—— His conduct during the siege and negotiation, however unsuccessful, has been unanimously acknowledged by the principal people here, since the business has been concluded.

It is possible that I may be sent to France by Count D'Estaing as a hostage, chosen from my knowledge of the country, and its inhabitants, French and English; the French ministry desire the English in this case will depute me to obtain some privileges for them.

I am, dear Sir,

Your most affectionate servant,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON."

Sir George's expectation, expressed in the above letter, of being sent to France, as an hostage, was very soon realized; as appears by the following letter, written at the time by a friend of his at Grenada, to his correspondent at Bourdeaux.

" A Mons. Black, Negociant, a Bourdeaux.

My dear Sir,

This island has been under the dominion of his Most Christian Majesty since the 4th instant.

The Comte D'Estaing, with twenty-six ships of the line, twelve frigates, and about 8,000 land forces, arrived here on the 1st. and after having disembarked a sufficient number of men, &c. to carry his point, he demanded a surrender of the island on the 3rd, in the evening, which Lord Macartney not thinking proper to comply with, our lines were carried by storm early in the morning of the 4th instant, and the whole island surrendered at discretion. The consequence is, that a very great part of the property of the English subjects will be confiscated, and all those who have no property will be expelled the government.

The Comte D'Estaing has also been pleased to order home to France eight of the principal inhabitants, as hostages, for I know not what. Of these the bearer, Mr. Staunton, is one.—He leaves the island at twenty-four hours' notice, and carries with him Mrs. Staunton, to share his good or bad fortune. I beg leave, my dear sir, to recommend this gentleman and his lady most particularly to your friendship.—During the five years we have spent together, we have been intimately connected, and I cannot help saying, that I rejoice at the opportunity of procuring him a *bon accueil*, however unfortunate the circumstances, to return him in some measure the many acts of friendship I have received at his hands.

As the French army landed exactly at Mr. Staunton's dwelling-house, where all his valuable effects and money were lodged, and which they very effectually destroyed, or carried away; and as the general's orders have been very unexpected and short, he, no doubt, will be in want of cash. If he is, he will apply to you, and I request you will furnish him with whatever sum he may require, for which I hereby become guarantee, if you will accept of me. You will take his receipts for the amount, one of which you will

send me, and I shall remit you, in whatever mode you appoint, an equivalent.—I am charged, jointly with two other friends, with his effects, which are very considerable, in slaves, lands, contracts, &c. so that, should even any unforeseen accident happen to my friend, you will nevertheless be assured of your reimbursement. I am, &c. &c.

Grenada, July, 1779.

JOHN BLACK."

The hurry of Sir George's departure prevented the gentlemen of the island from meeting on the subject of lessening the load of expence which fell upon him as hostage; but they addressed him a letter expressive both of their intention to do so, and also of their personal esteem and regard.

Most of the officers also of the French forces acted towards him the part of a generous enemy; so far, at least, as readily to concur in expressing their esteem and respect for his conduct and character.

The Chev. Durat, who had been placed in the command of the garrison of the island, recommended him to the favorable notice of

Mons. de Sartine, the French minister of the marine at that period, upon his arrival in France, by the following letter:—

" A Mons. de Sartine, ministre et secretaire d'etat au departement de la marine.

Monseigneur,

Des raisons de politique ayant obligé le Comte D'Estaing de faire passer en France M. Staunton, ci-devant aide-de-camp de Milord Macartney, comme ôtage, je profite de l'occasion de la flute la Ménagère, pour mettre en execution l'ordre qui m'a été laisée à cet egard. Mais comme Mons. le Comte D'Estaing n'a point determiné le lieu ou se rendrait M. Staunton, je l'ai authorisé à aller vous faire sa cour, pour prendre vos ordres. Depuis que je commande en chef ici, je n'ai eu qu'a me louer de M. Staunton, et de tous les gens comme il faut de la nation Anglaise qui sont restés ici. Je doute que, malgré le droit de conquête, et les termes de la capitulation, ils ayent à se plaindre de moi.

Je suis, avec un profond respect, &c.

A la Grenade,

Le Chev. de Durat."

le 27 Juillet, 1779.

The Viscount de Noailles, an officer of high rank in the French army, also recommended him to the kind offices of his cousin, the Marquis de Noailles, at Paris, upon this occasion, in a very especial manner, as follows:—

" Le Vicomte de Noailles à Mons. le Marq. de Noailles.

Je vous ai ecrit assez longuement, mon cher cousin, sur les operations qui nous ont occupé jusqu'à present. Vous savez que la Grenade a été prise le 4 Juillet. M. Staunton, qu'on dit, ne pas aimer les François, a été choisi comme ôtage pour passer en France. Je vous le recommande, mon cher cousin, comme un homme d'esprit, qui connôit parfaitement les colonnies. Je suis même persuadé qu'il pourra nous rendre service si nous savons nous l'employer. Vous serrez content de sa conversation. Je trouve que M. Staunton a plus de droit à notre estime par la valeur avec laquelle il a soutenu les intérets de la puissance Britannique.

M. Staunton est bon gentilhomme. Si Mons. de Vergennes cause avec lui, il trouvera un homme en état de lui rendre compte des colonnies.

Je vous prie, mon cher cousin, de ne pas oublier que vous m'avez promis un peu d'amitie——Je la merite par mon tendre attachment pour vous.

NOAILLES."

A la Grenade, Juillet, 1779.

Even the French commander-in-chief, the Count D'Estaing, of whose conduct, on the occasion of the capture of the island, the English in general, and Sir George in particular, had but too much reason to complain, did not refuse to contribute his testimony to Sir George's merits and character, upon that occasion; as will appear from the following short note, in which he gave a reluctant consent to his landing with his lady, for a short time, at St. Domingo, on their voyage to France:—

" Le Comte D'Estaing au Vicomte de Noailles à St. Domingue.

Mardi, 10 Aout, 1779.

Monsieur le Vicomte de Noailles est le protecteur de l'esprit et des talens, mais dans un ennemi, nouvellement François, ils sont dangereux. M. Staunton et sa femme sont les maîtres de descendre; le gouverne-

ment fera veiller sur eux. Ils répartiront Samedi pour la France. Ce mouvement pour un temps aussi court multiplie les embarras, et les officiers, prisonniers pour maladies, resteront ici.

Agréez l'expression de tous les mêmes sentimens que vous avez la bonté d'avoir pour

D'Estaing."

Sir George and his lady having embarked for France in the Menagère, French frigate, armed en flute, landed at Rochefort, on their way to Paris, on the 28th of October, after a providential escape from shipwreck during a tremendous gale of wind, in which several of the ships of the fleet perished; and one of them within a very short distance from the Menagère, with the whole of the unfortunate crew, without its being possible to afford them the smallest assistance.

Nothing could have been apparently more adverse to Sir George's interests than the capture of the island of Grenada, at this time, and his consequent immediate embarkation for France. His house and plantation, which unfortunately lay in view of the enemy when they were landing, were totally pillaged and

destroyed—every thing moveable was taken away—and the land itself was afterwards in part confiscated and given away to Frenchmen, upon frivolous pretences. The recovery of any part of the wreck of his fortune, in this conjuncture, seemed to be rendered still more hopeless by his sudden and compulsory departure from the island;—in a word, he found himself almost reduced to the necessity of beginning the world anew.

These circumstances, seemingly so unpropitious, were nevertheless, in the end, in some respects of advantage to him; in as much as they conduced to his immediate removal to a more favorable and extensive sphere for the exercise of his talents in the public service, and consequently to his acquisition of those honors by which his services to his country were ultimately rewarded.

The foundation for these latter events was in fact laid while he was detained as an hostage in France; as he availed himself of the opportunity thus afforded him, of negotiating with the French government Lord Macartney's exchange; an arrangement which enabled his lordship to accept of the important govern-

ment of Madras, in the East Indies, which, of course, he could not have done while a prisoner of war, on his parole; and Sir George having been appointed his secretary, they both embarked for India in the following year.

This exchange was obtained with no small difficulty, owing no doubt to the importance the French ministry very justly attached to the character of Lord Macartney, as a public man; and his lordship, in a letter to Sir George expressive of his acknowledgments, upon the attainment of an object of so much importance to him, observes, that it had been "accomplished with an ability and address, that he never could do too much justice to."

Sir George's misfortunes did not deprive him of the esteem and regard of his many friends and connections; as some few letters, from those distinguished men Edmund and Richard Burke, and his cousin, the member for Ipswich, which have been accidentally preserved, and are inserted in this volume, contribute to shew.

He embarked for India with Lord Macartney, in the Swallow packet, in January,

1781, and arrived at Madras on the 22nd of June following—His lady was prevented from accompanying him on this voyage, on account of the approaching term of her confinement with her third child, the writer of these sheets. —A son and daughter, previously born in the island of Grenada, both died in their infancy.

The political transactions in which Lord Macartney was engaged in the course of his administration in India have been fully detailed by Mr. Barrow, in his account of his lordship's life. The very large share which Sir George (in whom his lordship uniformly placed his sole confidence) had in those transactions, is well known to all persons conversant with the politics of India at that time, and may likewise be easily inferred from the extracts which have been inserted in this volume, from the private correspondence between him and the governor, during his negotiations for peace with Tippoo Sultaun, at Mangalore.

The occasions upon which his services in India were more particularly conspicuous, are thus briefly alluded to in Playfair's "Family Antiquity:"

" In this eventful administration, when, in the early part of it, Lord Macartney had but few friends capable or willing to assist him, the talents and qualities of Mr. Staunton's mind had full range, and were frequently called upon for their best exertions.

A few months after their arrival in India, Lord Macartney engaged Mr. Staunton to proceed to Calcutta, for the purpose of conferring with the Governor-general on the differences that had arisen between the two Presidencies, which threatened the most serious consequences to the interests of the East-India Company; and he had the satisfaction to return to Madras with the most solemn assurances of cordial co-operation on the part of the governor-general.

His next particular employ was a mission to the French commanders, Mons. de Bussy and Mons. de Suffrein, to induce them to suspend hostilities, though no account of peace had then reached them; with the view of relieving the British army before Cuddalore from its most perilous state: in which he most happily succeeded.

Again his services were required on a very critical occasion, when the tranquillity of the

settlement was deeply concerned, the arrest of Major-general James Stuart; and when it appeared too hazardous to the officer whose peculiar duty it was to enforce it.

And, lastly, in concluding an advantageous treaty of peace with Tippoo Sultan, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty and embarrassment, and requiring the full exertion of his energetic and intrepid character.

In 1784, he returned to England, by the way of France, in a French frigate, in order to inform the British minister of difficulties that had arisen in the execution of some of the articles, in the treaty of peace respecting India.

In consideration of these public services, the East-India Company settled a pension of £500 a-year upon him for life, as a mark of their approbation; but His Majesty was pleased to give him a more grateful testimony, the honor of Baronet of the Kingdom of Ireland, the 31st of October, 1785." *p.* 342.

The sense of the Court of Directors of the East-India Company was expressed upon the above occasion by the following vote:—

" At a Court of Directors, held on Monday, the 11th of April, 1785,

Resolved unanimously,

That in consideration of the steady exertions of George Leonard Staunton, esq. and the abilities he displayed in the trusts reposed in him by the Select Committee of Fort St. George, during the government of Lord Macartney; and more particularly in the negotiations carried on with the Marquis de Bussy and Tippoo Sultan, in all of which he acted without emolument or reward of any kind:

Resolved,

That Mr. Staunton be allowed £500 ℔ annum during his life, to commence from the 12th of March, 1784, being the day on which the peace was signed with Tippoo Sultan: and that he be permitted to proceed to Bengal as secretary to Lord Macartney, on entering into the same covenants as he formerly did on going with his lordship to Fort St. George."

The peculiar difficulties and merits of the distinguished part which Sir George took in the negotiation of the peace with Tippoo Sultan, will more fully appear from the following short extract from his private corres-

pondence with Lord Macartney, already alluded to. At one period of the negotiation, such serious differences existed between him and his then only colleague in the commission, that he despaired, under such untoward circumstances, of being able to carry those points in the negotiation of the treaty, which he considered of essential importance to the interests of his country; and he accordingly solicited his recal. Upon this occasion Lord Macartney wrote to him as follows:

" Your conduct will do you immortal honor, and that of your colleague would justify us in immediately removing him, if in our circumstances it could be contrived without more inconvenience, than his continuance. By our letter we have put it out of his power, to do further positive mischief; but I have it strongly in my mind to make one step more.—I shall however wait till I hear from you your sentiments, before I propose the execution of my idea. What do you thing of our sending Hudleston to join you as a third in the commission, and that the majority should decide; he could proceed within two or three days after the receipt of your answer.

Since I begun this letter, your packet of the 25th is arrived with the inclosures. It disposes me still more strongly towards the measure; but I cannot for a moment entertain the idea of your retiring. Upon your judgment, address, and integrity, I solely rely for the happy accomplishment of this business, in which not only my reputation and future lot of life may depend, but the salvation of the British empire in this part of the world.

MACARTNEY."

Very recently, in the year 1818, upon some of the transactions connected with the treaty with Tippoo, having been most unaccountably called in question in a late publication, a gentleman well acquainted with all the circumstances, wrote a letter on the subject, of which the following extract was kindly communicated to the Editor, by Thomas Collins, esq. of Berners street:—

"The three commissioners were Mr. Sadlier, Sir George Staunton, and Mr. John Hudleston.—Mr. H. supported all the public measures of Sir George, and well he might, for I never knew a more honorable, more zealous,

or braver man, or one more certainly possessed of first-rate abilities, than Sir George Staunton; and *most fortunate* it was for the East-India Company that he was employed upon that difficult and dangerous service. I shall say nothing more at present, unless I am called upon officially*."

With respect to another of the transactions in which Sir George was engaged, while in India, the Editor is enabled to add the following pleasing tribute, adopted by (if not from the pen of) one who knew him long and intimately well—the late learned and amiable Sir Arthur Piggott.—It was found attached to the reverse of a framed portrait of Sir George, in Sir Arthur's possession, and was kindly communicated to the Editor by Lady Piggott, after Sir Arthur's decease:—

"This benevolent and acute baronet had the honor and happiness to prevent the effu-

* On this subject, see the Quarterly Review for Oct. 1817, *p.* 72, 73.—Mr. Hudleston's explanations, on the question alluded to, proved perfectly satisfactory, and he continues still to enjoy the important and responsible office of an East-India Director, by the united suffrages of the Proprietors.

sion of human blood in the East Indies, in the year 1782. The peace had been signed between England and France at Paris, in that year; of which the French commander, in the Indies, either was or affected to be ignorant. Sir George however, with that power of address, coolness of temper, and persuasive eloquence which he so eminently possessed, prevailed upon the French commander, M. de Suffrein, to forego those advantages, which his peculiar situation had afforded him, against the English, and to postpone till another opportunity the miseries of war, but too often recurring between the two nations. The benediction bestowed upon the peace-makers, Sir George most eminently deserves; and would to Heaven, that in these times his magic tongue were again found, and again employed to effectuate the most salutary of all purposes, prevention of the havoc and destruction of the human race!"

Sir George left India, as already stated, in 1784, and thus announced his intended return to England, and the occasion of it, in a letter to Lord Sydney, at that period secretary of state for foreign affairs:—

" Brest, January 4, 1785.

My Lord,

Though I propose to continue my route from hence by land towards England, with all the expedition in my power, yet, as a letter by sea may reach there sooner than I shall be able to do, I think it my duty to give your lordship the earliest information, that some difficulties having arisen in India, relative to the execution there of the late treaty of peace between Great Britain and France, the Marquis de Bussy, commanding the French forces and settlements in India, determined on sending a frigate to Europe, with his dispatches entrusted to a person conversant with the subject of dispute; and having offered to receive on board, a person in like manner deputed by the government of Madras, with which, from its situation, the discussion took place, I have had the honor of being chosen for that purpose; and also for that of giving such personal information on other subjects of national concern that occurred lately in India, as I happened to have an opportunity of acquiring there. Immediately on my arrival in London, I shall have the honor of waiting on your lordship, and

of delivering to you the letters, which Lord Macartney gave me for that purpose.

The Coventry frigate, in which I embarked, sailed from Pondicherry, the 5th of August last, and arrived here this day. At the time of our departure, peace subsisted between the English Company and the several Indian powers.

I have the honor to be,

&c. &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON."

Lord Macartney followed Sir George to England in the year 1786, and was soon after named governor-general of India, in the place of Mr. Hastings. Mr. Barrow, in his account of his lordship's life, gives at length his reasons for declining to avail himself of that distinguished appointment. It has been already seen from the vote of the Court of Directors, that, had he accepted it, Sir George was to have accompanied him as his Secretary; and, he would, it was then generally supposed, have afterwards succeeded him in that high office; in the same manner as Sir John Shore, afterwards Lord Teignmouth, actually did succeed the late Marquis Cornwallis, who received the appointment in

consequence of the non-acceptance of it by Lord Macartney.

His lordship and Sir George thus ceased to have any further connexion with the politics of India, and they both remained at home some years unemployed; until, at length, the adoption of the measure of an embassy to China, again called for their active exertions in the public service.

This interval of about six years, Sir George passed in England in the society of his many literary and political friends, and in his domestic circle, in which his attention was chiefly devoted to the education of his only son, the writer of these sheets; whose deficiencies, whatever they may be, are certainly not imputable to any want of zeal or affection in his beloved parent.

Sir George was likewise no uninterested spectator of the extraordinary scenes which were passing during the latter part of this period in France. He unquestionably hailed the opening events of the French revolution as the harbingers of a new era of political wisdom and good government among man-

kind. If this was an error, and that it was one, painful experience has certainly fully proved, it was the error of a great and benevolent mind. He had been in early life a personal witness of the many enormous abuses, and absurd and mischievous restrictions, which France laboured under during the ancient regime; and he naturally rejoiced to see the day which afforded that country an opportunity (which she then lost, and which has cost her a quarter of a century of misery and bloodshed to regain) of establishing a better order of things upon the model of our own glorious and unrivalled constitution.

In February, 1787, Sir George was chosen a fellow of the Royal Society; and in April, 1790, he received the honor of a degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws from the university of Oxford.

When the embassy to China was proposed, he was in the 55th year of his age*; a period of life at which distant, and in some degree hazardous, expeditions, are seldom coveted, especially by those who are only

* See the engraved portrait at the beginning of this volume.

beginning to enjoy in their latter years, in the bosom of their friends, that honorable repose, which is the fairest fruit, as well as the best reward, on this side of the grave, of an active and well spent life, during the vigour of manhood. But the novelty of the undertaking, and the very extensive sphere of public utility to which it seemed to lead, gave it a degree of interest, in his mind, which it never could have possessed from the mere consideration of the personal advantages which it held out to himself.

The Chinese had been described by their European historians, the missionaries, in very glowing colors. It may be added in Sir George's own words, in his Account of the Embassy, that "the few who had hitherto found means to penetrate into China, had contributed rather to raise the attention of other persons than to satisfy their enquiries. Of the accounts given of it, some were contradictory, and some suspicious; but all concurred in ascertaining that, in respect to its natural and artificial productions, the policy and uniformity of its government, the language, manners, and opinions of the people, their moral maxims, and civil in-

stitutions, and the general economy and tranquillity of the state, it was the grandest collective object that could be presented for human contemplation or research*."

To extend and improve our connexion with such a people, appeared an object worthy of the honorable ambition of such men as Lord Macartney and Sir George—They possessed, moreover, the fairest grounds for indulging the hope, (expressed in the king's letter to the emperor upon the occasion) that " His Britannic Majesty being then at peace with all the world, no time could be so propitious for extending the bounds of friendship and benevolence, and for proposing to communicate and receive the benefits which must result from an unreserved and amicable intercourse between such great and civilized nations as China and Great Britain†."

For the final and complete accomplishment of these important purposes, his Majesty's government looked chiefly to Sir George Staunton, who was not only the secretary of the

* Authentic Account of the Embassy to China, vol. i. p. 31, octavo edition.

† Ditto, vol. i. p. 57.

embassy, and provisionally minister plenipotentiary in the event of the death or occasional absence of the embassador, but likewise the intended permanently resident minister on the part of His Britannic Majesty at the court of Pekin.

The untoward circumstances which intervened, and which prevented this latter part of the plan from being carried into immediate effect, are fully developed in the "Authentic Account of the Embassy:" but the diplomatic talents of our negotiators enabled them, nevertheless, to obtain from the wary government of China, such an invitation to an early renewal of the national intercourse between the two countries, by another embassy upon a more limited scale, as, had it been taken advantage of at the time, would in all probability have been found fully equivalent in its effects to the execution of the plan as originally contemplated. The severe illness, however, which afflicted Sir George almost immediately after his return from the embassy, and from which he never entirely recovered, unfortunately prevented him from returning to China upon this mission himself; and it may be fairly presumed, that the very great difficulty which

unquestionably existed to find another person duly qualified for such an undertaking, was the principal cause of its having been for that time abandoned.

It may be presumptuous to speak very confidently at present with respect to the precise extent to which our sanguine hopes of advantageous results from a negotiation with the court of Pekin, might have been realized, had Sir George's tried diplomatic talents, and recent experience in China, been available at that time, in the service of his country; but, considering the favorable impression which, upon the whole, had undoubtedly been created among the Chinese generally, by the embassy of Lord Macartney, and the personal goodwill, which, it is in the recollection of many, was entertained by several of the principal authorities in China towards Sir George, it may reasonably be conjectured that the success of such a mission, under such circumstances, would have been considerable—At all events, its chance of success cannot upon any rational grounds be judged of by a comparison with the actual results of the recent embassy, which, under far less propitious circumstances, was sent out to China twenty-

three years after that of Lord Macartney.—Even in this latter instance, good has been accomplished, as the very improved state of our commerce with China, as far as our intercourse with the government is concerned, will be generally admitted to testify; but it will easily be conceived that many of the views which were rationally entertained in 1794, would have been in 1816, owing to the intervention of unfavorable circumstances, altogether absurd and visionary.

To ensure as far as possible the success of Lord Macartney's mission, and even to obtain for it a fair chance of a due and honorable public reception at the court of China, it was from the first perceived, that the acquisition of faithful and competent interpreters would be absolutely necessary; but to so low an ebb was the existing state of our European relations with the Chinese Empire fallen at that period, that not a single native of British or continental Europe was any where to be found capable of performing that duty, nor even any native of China skilled in any European language, at any less distance from the British capital than the Roman Catholic college of the Propaganda at Naples. To obtain, there-

fore, without loss of time, the aid of one or two of the Chinese natives, educating at that college, was an object of the first importance, though by no means one of certain attainment. A personal application from a leading member of the embassy was obviously the plan most likely to be attended with success, as it would afford an opportunity for offering such explanations and assurances as might be requisite; and for satisfying the pious prefect of the college, that the temporary employment of these Chinese, as interpreters to a protestant Embassy, was not inconsistent with their ultimate destination as missionaries for the propagation in China, of the Roman Catholic faith. Sir George determined therefore to undertake himself this delicate service, though it obliged him, in an indifferent state of health, to make a rapid and laborious journey across the Alps into Italy, in the midst of winter. He had the satisfaction, through the assistance of Sir William Hamilton, our minister at Naples, completely to succeed in his object; and he brought back with him to England, two native Chinese, who both accompanied the embassy; and one of them, a man of very respectable talents and amiable manners, as well as of sound judgment and the highest integrity,

continued firmly and zealously attached to it throughout, and rendered it most essential services.

In the course of his journey into Italy, Sir George was overtaken by an offer on the part of the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, to propose to the Court his nomination as president of their Select Committee at Canton, a situation, which was at that time understood to be attended by emoluments equivalent to about four times the salary which had been annexed to his recent appointment on the embassy, and which, therefore, as far as pecuniary objects were in view, was of course far preferable; but no consideration could induce him to separate himself from Lord Macartney, or to quit the common cause in which they were embarked.

Sir George had certainly one other object in thus engaging at a late period of life in the Embassy to China. He flattered himself that it might possibly afford an opening for the future employment in this interesting branch of the diplomatic service of his country, of his own son, who at the tender age of eleven years, accompanied him, with his tutor, upon that expedition. These wishes were afterwards

realized, though certainly not precisely under the circumstances, or to the extent, which he had affectionately anticipated*.

* Although the Editor's appointment, here alluded to, as one of His Majesty's Commissioners of Embassy to the Emperor of China, in the year 1816, was unsatisfactory in some of its arrangements, and was unattended by emolument, or other personal advantage to him of any kind, it at least procured him the satisfaction of performing a highly interesting, and, on the whole, very agreeable journey, for a second time, through the vast and almost unexplored regions of the Chinese empire:— It obtained for him also the acquaintance, and he flatters himself, the friendship, of his highly esteemed and distinguished colleagues, as well as of the other valuable and respected individuals who were attached to that mission; and it has lastly yielded to him fruit of even a still more grateful kind, as it has been the occasion of the public and flattering testimony with which his valued friends and late colleagues on the East-India Company's China establishment have lately honored him, of their approbation of his conduct.

The local knowledge and official experience of those gentlemen render them so unquestionably the best judges of the expediency of the line of policy which was pursued in that embassy, in strict compliance with the precedent laid down in the former one, that it may be confidently maintained, that from the deliberate verdict they have now pronounced in its favor, there can be no appeal. The Editor's anxiety to omit no fair opportunity of vindicating that policy, and the (he hopes not unworthy) pride with which he has received such an approving testimony of his own individual conduct, from those whose esteem he has always been most solicitous to deserve, and amongst whom he has spent nearly all his official life, are his motives and his apology for introducing the notice of such a circumstance in this place.

Notwithstanding the severe indisposition with which, as already observed, Sir George was afflicted almost immediately after his return from China, and to which he ultimately fell a victim, he did not refuse the call which was made upon him from all quarters, as the only person capable of giving to the public a just and satisfactory account of that interesting expedition.

The "Authentic Account of the Embassy" appeared in 1797, and was introduced to the public by the following short preface or advertisement from the author, explaining the circumstances under which it was written:—

"ADVERTISEMENT.—The following sheets were composed in obedience to the public voice. The circumstances that led to an Embassy to China, the preparations that were made, the route that was pursued, the countries that were visited, the transactions that took place, all excited a curiosity, which the minister, who originated the measure, was well disposed to gratify. And it was thought most likely to be satisfactory, that the materials for this purpose should be entrusted to a person who had been himself

acquainted, from the beginning, with every particular of the intended expedition; and who, afterwards, was present at every thing that passed during the progress of it. He has endeavoured to acquit himself of this duty, with all the diligence that the ill-health under which he laboured would allow, in the expectation that, from other necessary delays, the public would not have to wait for his part of the performance; and in the hope, likewise, that his efforts would be received with greater indulgence, than if he had come forward from the suggestions of his own mind, and with a consciousness of talent and literary attainments, which might enable him to defy the severity of criticism."

It is certainly not too much to say, that the work, which was thus modestly presented to the public, ranks among the first literary productions of its class, in this country.—Mr. Barrow, in his own excellent work upon China, pays the following just tribute to its merits:—

" It is hardly necessary to observe that, after the able and interesting account of the proceedings and result of the British Embassy to the court of China, by the late Sir George

Staunton (who was no less amiable for liberality of sentiment, than remarkable for vigour of intellect) it would be an idle, and, indeed, a superfluous undertaking, in any other person who accompanied the embassy, to dwell on those subjects which have been treated by him in so masterly a manner; or to recapitulate those incidents and transactions, which he has detailed with equal elegance and accuracy." *p.* 1.

The remaining circumstances of Sir George's life were few, and for the most part melancholy. Although he retained the full vigour of his intellects to the last, under the pressure of the dreadful malady, a paralytic seizure, with which he was afflicted, it imperceptibly undermined his bodily constitution, which, ever since his recovery from the pulmonary attacks to which he had been subject in his youth, had been sufficiently robust and healthy; and, after a painful struggle of about six years, he gradually sunk into the grave.

During this unhappy period of sickness and of suffering, he experienced an additional pang, in the separation, to which he conceived himself under the necessity of submitting, from his only son, under circumstances, which forbad all hope of their again meeting.

The peculiarly scrupulous and highly honorable self denial which he had practised while in India, was the constant theme of admiration and praise there, even among those who did not feel disposed to follow, in its full extent, his example; and it was in one sense amply made up to him, by the gratifying consciousness of the purity and integrity which had marked his career in that country: but it necessarily prevented him, while many inferior competitors were rapidly advancing to wealth around him, from accumulating (even including his own small paternal estate, his lady's marriage portion, and his pension for life from the East-India Company) more than a very moderate fortune—He felt himself therefore called upon to neglect no fair and honorable opportunity that might offer itself, for supplying the deficiency; and he accordingly accepted the boon which the East-India Company, as a further proof of their esteem, were willing to confer on him, (the best appointment in fact in their gift) a writership for his son, on their establishment in China.

One of the latest occasions upon which Sir George quitted his chamber, was to be present at the marriage of his amiable and excellent relative, J. H. Massy Dawson, esq. the present

member for Clonmell, then a youth of twenty, and now the happy father of a numerous progeny*.

In concluding this Memoir (of the imperfection and inadequacy of which the Editor is fully conscious) he cannot resist the temptation he feels to appropriate to his own use, with a slight alteration, the beautiful language which Tacitus employs upon a similar occasion, when describing the close of the life of Agricola.

" *Mihi, præter acerbitatem parentis erepti, auget mœstitiam, quod assidere valetudini, fovere deficientem, satiari vultu, complexu, non contigit.—Noster hic dolor, nostrum vulnus; nobis tam longæ absentiæ conditione ante biennium amissus es. Omnia sine dubio, optime parentum, assidente amantissima uxore, superfuere honori tuo: paucioribus tamen lachrymis compositus es, et novissima in luce desideravere aliquid oculi tui.*"

What follows is equally applicable, except that what the heathen historian only *hoped*, the christian moralist *knows* to be true:—

* Mr. Massy Dawson's grandfather on his mother's side was Sir George's maternal uncle; his grandfather on his father's side was the first Lord Massy.

" *Si quis piorum manibus locus; si ut sapientibus placet, non cum corpore extinguuntur magnæ animæ; placide quiescas, nosque, domum tuam ab infirmo desiderio, et muliebribus lamentis ad contemplationem virtutum tuarum voces, quas neque lugeri, neque plangi fas est: admiratione te potius, et, si natura suppeditet, æmulatione decoremus.*"

Sir George, as already mentioned, had two sons and one daughter, viz. George, born in August, 1775, who died an infant: Margaret, born 24th September, 1772, who also died in her infancy; and George Thomas, his heir, the writer of this Memoir, born at Milford, near Salisbury, the 26th of May, 1781.

Sir George had one brother, and two sisters. His brother Aylward died, as already mentioned, of a consumption, at the early age of fifteen, in the year 1761. His elder sister, Margaret, married Richard Blake, esq. of Galway, and died in 1774, without leaving any issue. His younger sister, Lucy Barbara, married Richard Wolseley Cormick, esq. of Wolseley Park, in Grenada, in the West Indies, and died in 1791, leaving issue a son, Michael Henry, an officer in the service of the East-India Company, who died bravely fighting for his country, at the storming of Seringapatam,

in the East Indies, in 1799; and four daughters, who still survive—viz. 1st, Anne Staunton C. unmarried; 2nd, Margaret Leonard C. unmarried; 3rd, Victoire C. married to Mark Lynch, esq. of Duras Park, Galway, Ireland, by whom she has George Staunton L. Henry Cormick L. (an officer in the Madras infantry) Richard, Charles, Lucy, Margaret, and Jane; 4th, Jane Staunton C. married to William Clifford, esq. of Wexford, Ireland, by whom she has a son, William Henry, lately appointed to the military service of the East-India Company at Madras, and a daughter, Jane.

Sir George died at his house in Devonshire street, London, on the 14th of January, 1801, in the sixty-fourth year of his age; and by the particular desire of his distinguished friends, many of whom attended the funeral in person, his remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey. Hitherto, only a plain stone with a suitable inscription on it, from the pen of his respected and valued friend Major Rennell, has marked the spot: but a more appropriate tribute to his memory (a monument upon the plan of a sarcophagus, with allusive bass-reliefs on its sides) is at present executing by that distinguished sculptor, Chantrey.

THE END.

GENEALOGY OF SIR GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON, BARONET, OF CARGIN, COUNTY OF GALWAY, IRELAND.

SIR MALGER DE STAUNTON

Sir Malger de Staunton - Beatrix, d. of the Lord of Belvoir.

Sir William de Staun on - Athelina — John

Sir Geoffrey de Staunton - Alicia (1257) * Hervey, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and Chan. Exchequer to K. Edw. II

Margaret, w of Sir Theob. de Trickingham. — Sir William de Staunton - Isabella, s. of Ralph de Wirketon, — Robert, Rector of Staunton. — John

William de Staunton - Elizabeth, 5 E. II. - Joan, second wife, 1312, died in 1341.

Isabella — Margaret — Sir Geoffrey de Staunton - Joan, d. of Sir John de Loudham. — John. — Simon. — Thomas.

Sir Thomas - Alicia died before 1392. — Isabella — Ralph de Staunton - Constantia, d. of Agnes Sutton. died before 1408. | 1392.

Sir William - Elizabeth, d. of died in 1371. | Brian Thornhill. Elizabeth, d and heir w. of Will. Hamstrelley.

Elizabeth. — Alicia. — Thomas de Staunton - Marg. d. of T. Maperly. — William. — Agnes.

Thomas de Staunton - Elizabeth, living 9 H. VI. and 15 E IV.

William - Katharine, d. of John Disney, o. s. p. 1 H. VII. — George, second son. of Norton Disney, esq. — o. s. p. 1498. — John Staunton fourth son, living 15 E. IV. 1475. — Thomas - Anne, died in 1517. — William, Rector of Staunton.

Edward Staunton of Woburne, Bedford; purchased Smewens, Bucks. | Anthony - Sitha, d. of died 1569. | Robt. Neville, of Ragnal, esq.

Edmund Staunton - Eliz. d. of Reginald, 2d brother of Smewens, esq | of Edmund Lord Bray. — Robert - Bridget, d. of | Gab. Berwick, esq. — William — John — Eliz. — Anne

Elizabeth, w. of Sir Francis Staunton, of Woburn. — Anne, w. of Thos. Chamberlain, of Stratton Audley, Oxford. — Reginald Staunton - Eliz. d. of Anthony Shuckborough, of Smewens, esq. | of Shuckborough, esq. — William - Eliz. d. of Dan. Disney, | of Norton Disney, esq. died in 1634.

Anthony - Anne, d. and co-heir of Edw. Fortho, of Smewens | of Fortho, esq. Northamptonshire. — Mary — John

Anthony, of Great Brickhill | and Smewens. Anthony, died before 1717. — Elizabeth only d. & heir. w. of Jas. Stokes, esq. of Stockgrove, &c. M. P. for Galway & Ipswich.

Eliz. — Edm. — George Staunton - Eleanor, d. of Lynch, esq. 2d son (1634) | of Galway, Ireland. — Anthony - Frances, sister of Sir Matth. Pallmer. died in 1616. | died in 1639.

Thomas - Deborah, d. of 1701. | Morgan, esq. of Kilcolgan. — George Staunton - Eliz. d. of Martin of Cargin, c. Galway | of Tillyra, esq. — William - Anne, d. of Edm. Waring, esq. died in 1656. | of Leycroft, Staffordshire.

John - Bridget, d. of M P. for Galway | Edw. Donnellan, esq. — Thomas | Deborah. — James | Catherine. — George Staunton - Anne, d. of Nich. Lynch, of Cargin, died in 1733. | of Galway, esq. — Hervey - Anne, d. and heir of Geo. Cam, of Tuxford esq. living in 1671.†

Thomas - (1) Jane, sister of Henry, earl of Darlington. | (2) Cath. d. of T. Thurston, esq. and relict of W. Peck, esq. — George Staunton - Margaret, d. of John Leonard, esq. of Cargin, died in 1781. | of Carra, died 1st Oct. 1784. — Thomas Arthur — Nicholas John — Eliz w. of S. Simcocks, D. D. Warden of Galway. — Deborah, w. of Brandon, esq

John o. s. p. — Bettenson died unmar. — Thomas | Mary m. to R Stainforth, esq ‡ | Margaret m. to Hen. Woodcock, D.D. — Eliz. Catherine, w. of I. C. Bentley, esq.

Sir George Leonard Staunton - Jane, d. of Benj. Collins, esq. L.L.D. F.R.S. created a Baronet | of Milford, Salisbury. | of Ireland, 31st Oct. 1785. — Margaret, w. of R. Blake, esq. of Galway, died without issue. — Lucy Barbara, w.of R. W.Cormick, esq. of Grenada, died in 1791.

George Thomas Staunton, only child, b. 26th May, 1781. — Michael, o. s. p. 1799. — Anne, unm. — Margaret, mm. — Victoire, m. to Mark Lynch, esq. of Duras Park, Galway. — Jane, m. to W. Clifford, esq. of Wexford.

TO ALL AND SINGULAR to whom these presents shall come, We, the Kings Heralds and Pursuivants of the College of Arms, London, duly authorised under the Great Seal of Great Britain, to register and preserve the Genealogies and Arms of the Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom, do hereby CERTIFY, that the above Genealogy and Arms of *Sir George Leonard Staunton*, Baronet, are faithfully extracted from the RECORDS of our said College. In witness whereof, we have hereunto affixed the common Seal of our Corporation, this 29th day of August, in the thirty-second year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King GEORGE the Third, by the grace of GOD, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. and in the year of our LORD, one thousand seven hundred and ninety two.

GEORGE HARRISON, (L. S.) *Norroy and Register.*

* This Hervey de Staunton was summoned to Parliament among the Barons of the Realm, in the 8th and 9th years of the reign of King Edw. II. In the same reign he founded Michael House, in the University of Cambridge, which was afterwards, by King Hen. VIII. united with Kings Hall, and Phiswick Hostle, into one College, now called Trinity College.

† From this Hervey, the present family at Staunton, in Nottinghamshire, are descended in the female line.

‡ The marriages, issue, and deaths, of the collateral branches, *since* 1792, have been added by the editor.

APPENDIX,

CONSISTING OF

Illustrations and Authorities.

I.

EXTRACT

FROM THROSBY'S EDITION

OF

Thoroton's Nottinghamshire,

Vol. I. p. 305—319.

STAUNTON.

That part of *Stantune* which is in *Newarke* wapentake, before the *Norman* invasion, was the freehold of Tori, which paid the public tax of the Dane-geld for it, as ten bov. The land being then three car. There, at the time when the Conqueror made his survey, it being then become the fee of Walter de Ayncurt, (as all or most of Torie's lands in this county were) in demesne were three car. and four sochm. on one bovat and an half of this land*, and eleven villains, two bord. having two car. There was a priest and a church, one mill, 5s. 4d. sixty acres of meadow; in the time of Edward the Confessor the value was 4l. then 100s. It had soc. in *Alureton*, *Flodberge*, and *Dallintune*, and was then held by Malger, whose posterity having their chief residence here had their name from this place, and do continue in the male line, possessed of it to this day, Nov. 30, 1672.

* Lib. Dooms.

Oliver Dayncourt gave to William de Albeni the younger, the fee of two knights, which Galfr. de Staunton held, and which Raph Dayencurt, his grandfather, gave to the said William's father, himself adding half a knight's fee in *Gunwortheby*, for which the said William de Albeni was but to do the service of one knight, as the rest of the said Oliver's own men did.

The Stauntons were ever esteemed to hold of the lords of *Belvoyr*, by castle guard, where *Staunton* Tower is yet to be found, sufficiently guarded by the strength of its own liquor, with which the bottom of it is usually replenished.

* Galfr. de Staunton gave lands in *Kelum*, to the monastry of *Rufford*, which king Stephen confirmed, viz. five bovats, by the consent of Beatrix his wife, and Malger his son; and confirmed likewise, forty acres there, which those monks had of the gift of Malger de Rolleston. Beatrissa de Muschamp, after the death of her husband the said Galfr. de Staunton, for three marks and a cow, which she received of the said monks, in the presence and by the consent of her then lord and husband Eudo de Aubeni, confirmed to them the said five bovats, though they were part of her dower. And William, son of Malger de Staunton, also his grandfather the said Galfr. de Staunton's gift.

† This William made free Hugh Travers, son of Simon de Auvringham, and all his progeny, because he took a cross for him, and went for him to *Hierusalem*; so he did also John, the son of Simon de

* Regist. de Rufford pen. G. Viccom Hallifax, p. 1, 39, and 41.

† Autog. pen. H. Staunton, Ar.

Auvringham, and gave them to God and the church of St Mary, of *Staunton*, to be in the protection of the rector of *Staunton*. The witnesses were, Raph de Orlingberga, Robert de Stokes, William de Houkesworth, Ranulf Morin, Walter de Hou, Richard de Staunton the parson, William, parson of *Kilvington*, Roger, parson of *Elveston*, Ralph de St. Paul, and divers other. * Athelina, this Sir William de Staunton's wife, is said to be the second of the three daughters and co-heirs of John de Musters, lord of *Basingham*, in *Lincolnshire*, by which means part of that lordship came to this family of Staunton.

There was an agreement in the year 1257, between Sir Galfr. de Staunton, knt. this Sir William's son, and the prior of *Haverbolme*†, concerning many things to be observed on each part; to which instrument there yet remains a fair seal of the said Sir Galfr.'s, having his name circumscribed; and upon the shield within, is two bars, and a large canton. charged with a mullet of six points.

‡ Sir Galfr.'s wife was Alice, who together with himself, settled the whole manor of *Screvington*, in *Lincolnshire*, on William de Staunton, their eldest son, and the heirs of his body, which they had of the gift of Thomas Amys, and Christian his wife, for which the said William de Staunton was to do the service for a knight's fee and an half, to his said father and mother, and if he should have no issue, it was to

* Ex Mss Roberti de Staunton, pen. H. S. p. 39.

† Autog pen. H S. ‡ Autog.

go to the heirs of their bodies. The witnesses were, Sir Henry de Longo campo, knt. Sir Rich. de Huwelle, Will. Morin, Nicholas Morin, Everard de Hall, &c.

William de Staunton, knight, son of Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, knt. gave to Sir Theobald de Trickingham, knt*. in frank marriage with Margaret his sister, and to the heirs of their bodies begotten in lawful matrimony, his rent in *Scarthorpe* and *Silkeby*, and certain homages, reliefs, and services, which his grandchild Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, by his attorney, John de Staunton, 8 E. 3†. at *York*, claimed against John Asseballoks, of *Newark*, because Sir Theobald and his lady had no issue. The seal now hanging at Sir William de Staunton's deed is, two chevrons, and S. WILLI. DE. STAVNTON, MILITIS, in the circumference. To this William de Staunton did Ralph de Kirketon, knight, give with Isabell his sister, in frank marriage, all his land, rents, and services, in *Kilvington* and *Wilberdeston*, together with the right of patronage of the church of *Kilvington:* to this deed were witnesses, Sir Ralph de Charnelles, Sir James Byron, John Hosey, Hugh de Charnelles, William de Sybetorp, Thomas de Hotoft.

There was a fine levied, 8 E. 1, before Walter de Helyun, John de Lovetot, Roger de Leycester, and William de Burneton, between Thomas de Welond, and Margery his wife, and Richard son of the said Thomas, querents; and Alice, who had been wife of

* Autog. pen. H. S.

† Plac. apud Ebor cor. Will. Herle and Just. de Banc. 8 E. 3 rot 43, Autog. pen. A. S Ib.

Geoffrey Staunton, deforc. by Richard de Thistleton, put in her place to get or lose, of 10l. with the appurtenances in *Asse*, *Tunstall*, *Blakeshale*, *Watsdon*, and *Barleford Rendham*, whereby she settled those lands on the said Thomas, Margery, and Richard, for twelve years thence next ensuing, without any rent at all, but afterwards they were to pay her and heirs 10l. per annum, and so were John Woland and Thomas, brothers of the said Richard, upon whom they were entailed for want of issue of Richard.

Sir William de Staunton was a man of great action. He was, 6 E. 1*. agreeing with Almeric de Bellafago, concerning some estate in *Sadik*, whereof a plea was between them in the King's court before Richard de Exon, and his fellow justices itenerant at *Lymeric*. The King, 8 E. 1. took him into his special protection, being to go beyond the seas. He over-lived his son William de Staunton, and made his will 9 Nov. 1312, wherein he gave his body to be buried in the churchyard of St. Mary of *Staunton*, with which he bequeathed his palfrey, with his furniture. To William his son he gave a ring with a saphire, and another with a seal of cornelyan, likewise a murrey cup with a foot; to Isabell his own wife he gave a silver cup, in which was a certain shield; and a murrey cup with a foot to Joan his said son's wife; to Margaret his own daughter he gave like legacies; and to Geoffrey his son's son a cup of a nut, to be an heir loome: to John, Simon, and Thomas, sons of his said son William, to Isabell his daughter, and to many convents of friars, and to the churches

* Ib.

and poor of his own towns he gave something; and to the friar Elias de Levissingham 6s. and 8d. for the first day of his sepulture, and the seventh, ten marks, and as much to the Holy Land, that two foot-men should go the first passage in his name, and each have five marks: to perfect all, he ordered his ward of *Basingham*, which he had by Sir Tho. de Muleton of *Frankton*, as long as he should be in his hand with his other goods. His executors were Isabell his wife, William his son, and Sir Robert his brother, parson of *Staunton*, by the advice of fr. Elias de Levissingham.

* Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, knight, was this man's grandchild, and was sheriff of *Nottingham* and *Derby*, in the time of Edward the Third; he married Joan, the daughter of Sir John de Loudham, and had two sons by her, knights. Sir William, his eldest son, was twice married, but left only a daughter, named Elizabeth after her mother, which daughter was married to William Hamstrelly, as in *Elston* is mentioned. Sir Thomas, his second son, had a wife called Alice, who survived him, but had no issue, so that this manor came to Ralph his third son, whose first wife Hellen left no children; but Constancia, the daughter of Agnes de Sutton, his second wife, left many. Thomas de Staunton, esquire, his eldest, about 4 H. 4. had to wife Margaret, the daughter of Thomas Mapurley, and afterwards two others, Elizabeth, 2 H. 6. and Joane, 10 H. 6. Thomas de Staunton his son, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of —— Sleford (as 'tis said), left many sons, on whom the estate was entailed; he had a sister

* Autog. Ib.

called Margaret, who (36 H. 6.) was second wife of John Barret of *Horbling*, in *Lincolnshire*. His first son William Staunton, esq. married Catharine Deisney, but had no issue, for he left this manor, 4 Mar. 14 H. 7. to George his brother, who had a daughter married to —— Brookesby; but after him this manor went to William his brother, who was both lord and parson of this place, and left it to his brother Thomas Staunton (John* being dead before). These had a sister named Alice, married to John Thorold of *Barston*, in *Lincolnshire*. This last Thomas, by his wife Anne, daughter of Thomas Pourment, or Paramour, who had cut on the brass of her tomb, a chevron between three roses, had a son called Anthony, who married Sith, daughter of Robert Nevill, of *Ragnell*, esquire, and by her had very many children; Elizabeth, first, wife of Roger North, then of Hugh Thornhil, and after of Arthur Walpole; Ellen, wife of William Wild, of *Nettleworth;* Brigitt, of Jerom Brand before named; Katherin, of Richard Marshil; Anne, of William Snow; Sith, unmarried; his sons were Anthony, Richard, John, William, but his eldest son was Robert Staunton, esq. a very pious and good man; he married Brigitt, one of the two daughters and co-heirs of Gabriel Barwick, esq. lord of *Bulcote*, in this county, by whom he left William Staunton, esquire, a very good man too; but he sold his share in *Bulcote* to his cousin, Gabriel Odingsells, for 1500l. to purchase his cousin Brand's here for 1200l. which were those belonging to the

* Ancestor of the Stauntons of Woburn, Bedfordshire, and Galway, Ireland. See Harl. MSS. No. 1553. *Note of Editor.*

priory of *Haverholm*, already mentioned, after which he sold other lands, as in their places may be observed. His wife was Elizabeth, the daughter of Dan. Deisney, of *Norton-Deisney*, in *Lincolnshire*, esquire, with whom he had 300l. portion. She after his death married —— Aston, and —— Bussy. He left his son Anthony Staunton under age, who was ward to the earl of *Rutland*, and the tradition is that Sir Matthew Palmer, of *Southwell*, won him at bowls of Robert Dallington, servant to Earl Roger, who gave him to that gentleman (1604), and when he the said Sir Matthew had him, he married him to his sister Frances, who had to her second husband Robert Waring, of *Wilford*, to whom she bare a son called also Robert Waring, and two daughters; the elder, Frances, was the first wife of Matthew Morgan, of *Averhavesp*, in the county of *Montgomery;* the second Elizabeth, died unmarried, but first to her husband, the said Anthony Staunton, she brought a son called William, who married Anne, niece to her said second husband, being daughter of Edmund Waring, of *Leycroft*, in the county of *Stafford*, esquire, his elder brother.

This William Staunton went with the King to *Edge-Hill* fight, and afterwards was a colonel for him in the garrison of *Newark*, which impaired his estate, as the parliament soldiers did his house here, in which they sometimes quartered. He sold some of this lordship to William Cartwright, the lawyer, before-named, as after his death his trustees did another part to Dr. James Margetson, now lord primate of *Ireland*. He left many children; his eldest son, Malger, died a

bachelor, and left his brother, Harvey Staunton, esq. the present inheritor of this manor, who married Anne, the daughter and heir of George Cam, of *Tuxford*, by whom he hath daughters, and may have sons, to continue this most ancient family in the male line: his sister Mary is wife of William Sacheverell, of *Barton*, esquire; his sister Anne, of Peter Broughton, of *Lowdham*, younger brother of Sir Bryan Broughton; his sister Catherine, of Mr. Holbrooke, parson of *Edgemond*, in *Shropshire*, brother of William, the present parson of *Staunton;* his sister Elizabeth, is yet unmarried; and his brother Ralph Staunton, a scholar in Trinity College, *Cambridge;* the rest of the colonel's children are dead.

* The rectory of *Staynton* was 18l. 'Tis now 16l. 13s. 11d. ob. in the King's book, and Harvey Staunton, esquire, patron, as his ancestors have been.

There is a certain kind of rhyming bard-like pedigree of this family, made by one Robert Cade; who did the like of the family of Skeffington, and 'tis like for some others; in this he hath transcribed the epitaphs out of this church, and therefore it cannot be much amiss to insert it for an example of such like work, which hath been much esteemed by some families.

To the Reader.

GOOD reader, thou which hereon lookes
Abandon mynde so haultye†,
It may be proved that ys averde,
Though thou think it be faultye.

* M. SS. J. M. † Autog. pen. H. S.

Forget the basenesse of thy byrthe,
Do not the best condemn,
The Stauntons may compare with thee,
And thou canst not with them.

Therefore better I do conclude
To rest, and not to ryse,
Leest that thou rise and fall againe,
By meanes of enterprise.

Then Petygrewe go shew thyself,
Truth lurkes not in the darke,
And you that supervysores are
Attentyve be and marke.

Under this is, Stauntons' two chevrons, with a fox for the crest. And Dysneys, three flowers de lis upon a fesse, and a lion passant gardant for the crest.

The Stauntons Petygrewe.

O Champion cheefe and warlike wight,
Of Staunton's stocke the pryme,
Thee and thy sequele I must blase,
And petygrewe define.

Though Haroldes they in noble sorte
Thy armes not pende in vaine,
Yet something wants that here is writte,
As bookes and toumbes shew plaine.

The first Sir Mauger Staunton, knight,
Before William came in,
Who this realm into one monarche
Did conquer it and winne.

At which same time this *Mauger* knight,
Thrughe feats of arms and sheeld,
In marcyall prowes, so valeant was,
That then he wanne the feelde.

In *Belveor* Castle was his houlde,
That *Stauntones Tour* is highte,
The strongest forte in all that front,
And hiest to all men's sighte:

Unto which forte with force and flagge
The Stauntons stocke must sticke,
For to defende against the foe,
Which at the same could kicke.

His lodgeinge large in that turrite,
At all times for his ease,
He may command both night and day,
And no man to displease.

And therefore Stauntons Mannor nowe
Whiche in *Staunton* doth stande,
Of *Belveor* castle is now helde
By tenure of the lande.

This Staunton knight got sure to wife,
One Emme of worthy fame,
Also a son that knighted was,
Which Mauger had to name;

Which last Syr Maugre took to wife
Beautrix both sage and wise,
As valeant as his father was
In every enterprise.

Which Lady Beautrix, daughter was
To him that then was lord
Of *Belveor* Castle (in the vale)
As tombes and armes accorde;

Which two sir knights cross-legged lieth
In male and armoure fine:
Theire superscriptions worne away,
Theire deathes are without time.

Yet warlike wightes with helmes on heades
In Stauntons church do lie,
Their soules, no doubte, for noble actes
Ascend the skies on hie.

Before his death this last knight got
Two sons, William and John,
And also with man hood and strengthe
The *Barre* pasture he won.

The *Belveor* lorde said, it belong'd
To *Northampton* trulie,
But this knight seasde did die thereof
As his demaine in fee.

Sir William Staunton, knight, was next,
Dame Athelin was his wife,
Sir Geoffrey Staunton, knight, their heire,
Both voide of vice and strife.

And Sir Henrie his brother was,
Who gave himselfe to learne,
That when he came unto mans state,
He could the lawes discerne.

And in the same went forward still,
And profited muche, I know,
At ynnes of courte a counsailer
And serjeant in the lawe.

And in processe of tyme indeede,
A judge he came to bee
In the Common Benche at *Westminster*,
Such was his highe degree.

A baron wise, and of greate wealthe,
Who built for scholers gaine,
Sainct Michael's house in *Cambridge* towne,
Good learninge to attaine;

Which deed was done in the eighteenth yeare
Of second EDWARDE King,
One thousande three hundred twenty-foure,
For whom they pray and singe.

In which said house the Stauntons may
Send students to be placed,
The founder hath confirm'd the same,
It cannot be defaced.

This lord baron no yssue had,
We cannot remember his wife,
Nor where his body tombed was
When death had cut off life.

Sir William, the father, is tombed sure
In *Stauntons* church of olde,
And hath engraved upon his stone
Verbatim to behoulde.

Hic jacet Wilelmus de Staunton, miles; & filius Maugeri de eadem, militis, qui obiit ultimo Maii: Cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.

Sir Geffrey tooke dame Alce to wife,
Four sons he did beget,
Willyam, Richarde, Robert, and John,
And also Margaret.

Robert and John were parsons both
Of *Staunton* aforesaid,
Margaret was married to Trickingham,
Which cannot be denaide.

This Robert in the chauncell li'the
Of *Staunton* to be seene,
The superscription extant there
In theis wordes as I weene.

Hic jacet Robertus quondam rector ecclesiæ de *Staunton*, et frater Wilelmi Staunton de eadem, militis, qui obiit nonis Kalend. Maii, Anno Domini 1329.—Cujus animæ propitietur Deus.

John his brother in like sorte too
Lies tumbled under a stone,
The superscription may be seene,
It is not all out gone.

Hic jacet Johannes quondam rector ecclesiæ de *Staunton*, & filius Galfridi Staunton de eadem, militis.

Anno Domini this Sir Gefrey
One thousand, and also
Two hundred fifty, as we reade,
And addinge seven thereto:

Rated the prior of *Haverholme*,
And neighbours dead and gone,
How many cattell they should put
Into the *Barre* each one:

For which unto the lord alwais
A certaine cheefe in lue,
Of olde time call'd their *Barre* pennyes,
Which at this day are due.

The Stauntons also likewise have
Common therein yet still,
Willowes to cutt, and fish to take,
With other things at will.

Sir Willyam was Sir Gefreys heire,
And Isbell was his spouse,
Sister to Sir Raph of * *Merton*,
A knight of auncient house;

Which Rafe unto dame Isbell gave
Landes greate with rents they saye,
In *Kilvington* and *Wilberdston*
In franke-marriage for aye;

Which Sir Willyam, and dame Isbell
A son between them had,
His name Sir Willyam Staunton was,
A knight both grave and sadd.

Which Sir Willyam the father hathe
On his owne tombe well writte,
As it is here set worde for worde,
With his arms graved on it.

Hic jacet Wilelmus de Staunton, miles, filius Galfridi de eadem, militis, qui obiit nonis Maii, anno Domini 1326. Cujus animæ propitietur Deus.

* Kerketon.

To last Sir Willyam Joane was wife,
They sonnes had foure indeede,
Gefrey, John, with Simon also,
And Thomas, as we reede.

And John his seconde sonne, we finde,
Had yssue John a-right,
A *Devonshire* man of courage stoute,
Which was a worthy knight.

But Symon was a learned clerke,
Of *Staunton* parson he,
His life and callinge co-equal,
With menne he did agree.

On pars'nage grounde he builded much,
And those were very large,
Houses of office, and gate-house
Were seemly for the charge.

Which Symon when he had ended
And done his workes of coste,
He left them all and past away
As if labour were loste:

And for his pasport, to be plaine,
There's writte upon his tombe,
A great rewarde for such a man
For all that he hath done.

Hic jacet Magister Simon, Rector ecclesiæ de *Staunton*, et frater Galfridi de eâdem, militis. Qui ædificavit Rectoriam de *Staunton*. Obiit Idus Septembris, anno Domini 1316. Cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.

The last Sir Willyam wedded was
To Joane of beauty faire,
In unity they lived longe,
Sir Gefrey was their heire.

Which Willyam died in the year of Christ
One thousand, as I gesse,
Three hundred fortie addinge one,
Not one yeare more or lesse.

Good Sir Gefrey, Sir Willyam's son,
Was wedde to Lady Joane,
Daughter to Sir John of *Loudham*,
A knight now tomb'd in stone.

Gefrey with Joane five children had,
Willyam, Thomas, and Rafe,
Well learned John, and Alce also,
Christ keep their soules in safe.

The same John was a good devyne,
God pour'd on him his grace,
For he was parson of *Staunton*,
But death dothe all deface.

Alce his own sister husband took,
The lord of *Rampton* towne,
Stephen Maulovel, a squire riche,
Of worship and renowne.

Alce then was buried in *Stauntons* church
The pulpit very neare,
The superscription of her toumbe
In theis words follow'th heare.

Hic jacet Alicia, uxor Stephani Maulovell, domini de *Ramton*, et filia Galfridi de Staunton, militis.—Que obiit in Kalendis Augusti; Anno Domini 1349. Cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.

Sir Gefrey, knight, on Mondaie died,
The sixteenth day, I heare,
Of October, the tenth moneth,
Which happeneth in the yeare

Of Christe one thousande, as I find,
Three hundred sixty neene,
As writeings old can well declare,
Which have beene read and seene.

This Gefrey was a learned manne,
And well seene in the lawe,
Bothe grave, modest, and wise also,
And once shreve was, I knowe;

And in election once againe
That office to have used.
Justice of peace he long time was,
Till life had him refused.

Before whose deathe Stauntons lordship,
And Basingham, with lands moe,
As *Quarington*, and *Scregenton*,
With *Elston*, truth was soe.

He did intail to Stauntons heirs,
That males lawfully were,
And of the same seased did die,
By deeds it may appeare.

And of good lands in *Newarke* towne,
In *Lughborowe* without faile,
In *Leicester* towne in *Derbyshire*,
His right it could not quaile.

The saide dame Joane, Sir Gefries wife,
Li'the in Sainct *Laurence* queare,
In *Stauntons* church, the deed declares,
The writeinge follows here.

Icy git Jone, que fute la femme Mounsier Gefrey de Staunton, & la fillie Mounsier John de Loudham. Que morust le derayne joure de July, la anne le nostre seignor Christ 1366. X aie mercie de sa alme.

Dame Cicely, Sir John Lowdhams wife,
And mother to Lady Joane,
Li'the buried in Saincte Laurence queare,
Emongst her freendes now gone.

Hic jacet Domina* Cecilia de Loudham, uxor Johannis de Loudham, militis, & filia Roberti de Kirketon, militis. Quæ obiit septimo Idus Octobris, Anno Domini, 1344. Cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.

Sir Willyam was Sir Gefries heire,
Wives worshipful two had,
The Lady Katherin was the first,
Dame Elizabeth full sad:

Elizabeth was daughter deare
To Sir Brian of *Thornehill*,
A worthie Knight in his countrie,
His witte did rule his wille.

* Alicia.

Sir Willyam had with El'zabeth,
A wise and vertuous childe,
Elizabeth she had to name,
Both modest chaste and milde;

Which El'zabeth his only childe,
For Willyam had no moe,
For aye to her his mannor gave
Of *Elston*, it was soe:

And given to wife no doubt she was
To Hamsterly, a squire,
The writinge writte on Willyams tombe
Now reade at your desire.

Hic jacet Wilelmus Staunton, filius Galfridi de eâdem, militis. Qui obiit Idus Augusti, Anno Domini 1371.

The second sonne of Sir Gefrey,
Sir Thomas was the same,
And brother to Sir Willyam he,
And heir of Stauntons name,

Wed Alce, but yssue had they none,
Which was small comfort then,
And in the church-yard lieth colde
Emonge the simple menne.

So much he did debase himselfe,
To shew his humble minde,
That wheresoever his body lay
God could his soule out finde.

This Sir Thomas by his last wille
Gave twenty pounds in deede,
To build an yle in Stauntons church,
Which could not be decreede.

For that same monie was bestow'd,
In building the roofe againe
Of Stauntons church which was decaied,
But not as Thomas did meane.

For he will'd the yle should be made
In honoure of our Lorde,
And to Sainct Thomas dedicate,
But they could not accorde.

Therefore Sainct Thomas of *Canterbury*
Loste some part of his righte,
To remember the Stauntons deade
And buri'd out of sighte.

Dame Alce, Sir Thomas wife, doth lie
In the parish churche of *Stoke*,
Neere *New'rk*, the superscription is
Which no manne can revoke.

Here lieth Dame Alce Staunton; over this toumbe, I pray you, as I have loved you entirely, to our Lorde God, you praie for me: the which died the neenteenth daie of Novemb. in the year of our Lord God 1418. Jesu, for thy passion, take me to thy mercie; Lady, for thy pitie, have mercie upon me.

Raph, the third sonne of Sir Gefrey,
Sir Thomas was his brother,
Was next heir by succession,
The lawe could judge no other.

Which Rafe was an esquier riche,
He liv'd and had two wives,
Hellen and Constance were their names,
Which both led godly lives.

Rafe begot Thomas and Willyam,
But Thomas he was heire,
Who had three wives which discreet were,
Margaret that was so faire.

Elizabeth, and Joane also,
Three women rare to see:
In theim all vertues did abound
Faith, Hope, and Charitie.

Rafe was tomb'd in *Quarrington*,
Superscription none there is,
Do ye not doubt of his good death,
His soul enjoyeth blisse.

And Thomas lieth in Stauntons quere,
And writte over him indeede,
As next ensueing this same verse
You plainlie may well reede.

Hic jacet Thomas Staunton, Armiger, filius Radulphi Staunton, Armigeri, qui obiit ult. Kalend. Aprilis, Anno Domini 1446. Cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.

Vermibus hic donor, Et sic ostendere conor:
Nam sicut hic ponor, Ponitur omnis honor.

Next Thomas with El'zabeth had
Five sons, I can them name,
Willyam, George, Willyam, Thomas, John,
Then Alce their sister came.

The elder Willyam, Katherin wedde,
Whose daughter? can you tell?
The lordes of *Norton* Disney sure,
By proofe I know it well;

Who though with wealth they did abound,
Off-springe they both had not;
And George his brother wedded was,
His wifes name is forgot.

Yet this George a faire daughter had,
Whose name we cannot reede,
But Maister Bruxbie married her,
In *Melton* dwelt indeede:

And buride George was the fourth of March
One thousand, and some moe,
Foure hundred yeares ninety and eight,
By proofe we find it so.

Alce, Georges sister, a husband tooke
John Thorold, a squire good,
In *Marston* there his living lay,
Who came of gentle blood.

Willyam Staunton the younger call'd,
Succeeded as heire male,
Who in his former brethrens lives,
Marke what I you tell shall,

Well learn'd he was in all the artes,
He had a passinge braine,
Parson of *Staunton* he was made,
He cared not for gaine.

For beinge both lord and parson then
He was at extreme charge,
The poor he fed, good house he kept,
His livinge was so large.

And after huge and great summs spent,
He dide a single man,
And buried is in *Staunton* church,
His owne toumbe shewe I canne.

Thomas, the fourth son of Thomas,
And brother to the preest,
Was lord of *Staunton* by descent,
For he was heire male neest.

His wife was Anne, they children had
Both Anthonie and John,
The youngst was preest, a seculare manne,
But marke what else was done,

This Thomas was learn'd in the lawes,
And mervailed of many,
For he entailde the *Stauntons* landes,
Not better donne of any.

That the heires males might it possesse,
Both *Staunton* mannor and all,
With *Kilvington*, and *Alderton*,
And purtnance generall.

Flauburgh also, and *Dallington*,
Accordinge to intente,
As by a deede which doth declare
What Thomas Staunton mente;

Which deed beares date the fiveteenth yere
Of EDWARD then the Kinge,
The fourthe prince of that name, we reade,
Trulie an auncient thinge,

Done in the yeare of Christ our Lorde
One thousand hundreds foure,
And seventie thereto added right,
With twise two and no more.

He builded also the great barne,
Which by the mannor doth stande,
A thousande four hundred sixtie three,
Then was it taken in hand.

When Thomas and Anne had runne their race,
In Sainct Laurence quere were laide,
The superscription on their toumbe
Doth followe you mai reade.

Hic jacet Thomas Staunton, Armiger, filius Thomæ Staunton, Armigeri, & Annæ uxoris ejus. Qui obiit nono die Januarii, Anno Domini, 1517. Cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Amen.

Whiche Thomas and Anne before their deathes
Had two sons theim betweene,
Anthonie, John, well learned were;
John was a preest I weene,

But Anthonie, a noble squier,
A lover of the poore;
A stout man and couragiouse,
Well willinge evermore.

He marri'd one of good worshippe,
Whom he lov'de as his life,
A godlie woman in all respects,
Her name was Mistris Sithe;

The elder Robert of *Ragnell*,
A Nevell nott forgott,
Her father was, who lov'd her much,
There was no cause whie not.

A good squier this Nevell was,
His liveing great is it,
An ancient name of worthie house,
Whose stocke doth flourishe yet.

This Anthonie, and Sithe also,
Had children two and neene,
All vertuouse, six wedded well,
As many children bene:

Richard, Robert, John, and Willyam,
Elizabeth, Anne, with moe,
Ellen, Brigit, and Katherin both
With Sithe, it must be soe.

Richard and John no yssue had,
But El'zabeth, truste me,
Wed Roger North of *Walkringham*,
And after Whalpole she.

Anne match'd herselfe with Willyam Snowe,
Whose life was shorte we reede,
Yet yssue had he to be seene
John and Richarde indeede.

Ellen the next wedd Willyam Wilde,
Of *Nettelworth* lord he was;
After him a yonge man she tooke,
Cotes brought it soe to passe.

Ellen to Wilde did bear a sonne,
Edwarde we doe him call,
The onlie heire of all his landes,
If right may to him fall.

And Brigit, like a woman wise,
Was match'd with Jerome Brande,
Lorde of *West-hall* or *Stauntons* grange,
For so I understande.

Though his life shorte, yet children foure,
Robert, Willyam, also
Isbell and Anne he did beget,
God send them well to do.

Katherin Staunton, Brigits sister,
A lovinge housebande tooke
Richard Marshall, a proper man,
Most comelie on to looke.

And Sithe her sister was not wedde,
God lov'de her not amisse,
The earth her body hath entoumb'd,
Her soule remaines in blisse.

This Anthonie the brother* of
Theis godlie children all,
Buil'te Stauntons chimney as it stands,
And windowe in the hall:

And soon after was laide down flatte
And chested under stone,
Over whose toumbe you may discerne
That there lies such a one.

Hic jacet Anthonius Staunton, Armiger, filius Thomæ Staunton, Armigeri, & Sithæ uxoris ejus, filiæ Roberti Nevell, Senioris de *Ragnell*, Armigeri†. Qui obiit Septimo die Februarii, Anno Christi 1569. Quorum animabus propitietur Deus. Amen. Anima Domino Deo meo vivet, Et semen meum serviet ipsi. En Dieu maffie.

Robert Staunton was eldest next,
And Anthonies heire by bludde,
For he was worthiest of theim all,
A famouse squier and good.

His doings in his fathers life
To small gaine did amounte,
Eight hundred poundes then did he owe,
And more by juste accounte:

* Father. † Quæ obiit 27 Feb 1560.

Yet in few years discharg'd it all,
Without raiseing of rente;
Fewe leases likewise did he make
To furnish his intente.

And or he dide, such order tooke,
That thirtie pounds by yeare
Soone purchased of lands in fee,
And left theim to his heire.

Well learn'd he was, and studiouse
His bookes and writeings shewe,
His deedes and notes are wonderfull
To prove the same most true.

He built the porch at Stauntons house,
And other buildings faire,
Towardes the south next the orcharde,
Which remains to his heire.

Hic jacet Robertus Staunton, Armiger, filius & hæres Anthonii Staunton, Armigeri. Qui quidem Robertus obiit 19 Junii, 1582.

Willyam Staunton, being under age,
Is lorde of all his lande:
His mother likewise gave him hers
Confirmed with her hande.

To Edwarde Ros, earle of *Rutland*,
This Willyam warde was founde
In *Newarke* by a jury juste
Thrughe tenor of his grounde;

Which Willyam in minoritie
He so his God dothe feare,
Hundreds of pounds his fathers debte
He doth alreadie cleare.

At schoole he learn'd to serve the Lorde,
His learninge stands in steade,
Good fathers steppes let him out-trace,
And his bookes often reade.

This Willyam married El'zabeth,
God graunt theym still accorde,
Daughter to Daniell Disney, squier,
Of *Norton* Disney lorde:

An house of greate antiquitie,
As many that I can name,
And when that she a mayden was
All did commende her fame:

Most vert'uslie she was brought up,
According to her age,
On instruments she can well plaie,
Modest she is and sage.

Both booke and needle she can use,
And romaine write full well,
With qualities moe she is indu'de,
Which were too longe to tell.

In Romaine letters capitall
Thy Stauntons posy trust,
En Dieu maffoye writte first above,
Which christians followe must.

The Disneys posey not forget,
Which is, suffrance doth ease;
Then without doubt for to be toulde,
Fewe folkes you mai displease.

Nowe farewell Willyam, with thy spouse,
God graunt worshippe increase,
And Nestors years to live on earthe,
And youre love not to cease.

God graunt you off-springe to your joye,
God grant you have his grace,
God grant that I may see in heaven
You all look face to face:

And all that knowe you saie Amen,
No other cause ye have:
Yf any thing be done amisse,
Free pardon I doe crave.

Finis then Qd. a freende of yours,
And servaunt in his trade,
Which writeing wrought, and verse alsoe,
His name is Robert C....ade.

The mistakes committed by this bard may easily be corrected, and pardoned.

In the Church is, arg. two chevrons sable, with a bordure engrailed, sable also. And without a bordure for Staunton. And gules, a fesse ermine, between three waterbougets arg. or ermine. And gules, a bend or.

And azure, a fesse dancè, and billettè or, Deyncourt.

And there was also—Hic jacet Tho. de Staunton, Armiger, filius Thom. de Staunton, Armigeri. Qui obiit nono die Augusti, Anno Domini 1482.

STAUNTON PEDIGREE.

Malgerus temp. Willielmi Conq.

Galfridus de Staunton-Beatrix de Museham-Eudo de Aubeni marit. 2. Robertus.

Malgerus de Staunton, miles- Robertus. Hugo.

Willielmus de Staunton, miles-Athelina un. co-hær Joh. de Musters Galfr.

Galfr. de Staunton, miles-Alicia. Willielmus. Rogerus de Thourleby-Marg.

Will. de Staunton-Isabella soror Rad de miles ob. 1326. | Kirketon, mil. Robertus Rect. de St. Johannes Rect. de Staunton. Marg.-Theobald de Trekingham.

Willielmus de Staunton ob ante patrem-Joana. Margareta.

Galfridus de Staunton-Joana fil. Johannis de miles, ob. 1369. | Lowdham, mil. Simon Rector, ob 1346 Thom. Isabel. Marg. Johannes-

Will. de Staunton-Elizab. fil. Br. miles, ob. 1371. | Thornhill. Thom. mil. Alicia. s. p. Rad.-Constantia fil. | Agnetis Sutton. Johannes, miles, de Devonsh. 5 E. 3.

Thom. de Staunton ob. 1482. Elizabetha. Johannes Barret de Horbling-Margareta.

Will. de Staunton-Katherina Georgins- ob. 14 H. 7. s. p. Deisney. ob. 1498. | Will. Rector & Dom. de Staunton *Johan. ob. 1517. | Thom.-Anna. Alicia ux. Jn. Thorold. de Marston.

—— de Staunton fil. & hær.——Brooksby Antonius de Staunton-Sitha fil. Rob. Nevil de Ragnall ob. 1560. | ob. 1569

Robertus Staunton-Brigitta fil. & cohær. Gabr. Anth. Rich. Joh. Will. Eliz. An. Ellen. Sith. Kath Brigit. ob. 1582 | Barwick de Bulcote, Ar.

Willielmus Staunton, Ar. ob. 1602.-Elizabetha fil. Dan. Deisney.

Anthonius Staunton-Francisca soror Math. Palmer militis-Robertus Waring maritus 2. Johannes Cler.

Willielmus Staunton Ar. ob. 1656. Anna fil. Edm. | Waring. Robertus Waring-Anna Pate. Math. Morgan C. Montegomery-Franc.

Malgerus Harvey Staunton-Anna fil. & hær. Rad, s. p. | Geo. Cam. Maria ux. Will. Sacheverell. Anna Petri Kath. Eliz. Broughton.

* Ancestor of the Staunntons of Bedfordshire and Galway.—See, *inter alia*, the Harleian Mss. and Playfair's Family Antiquity. *Note of Editor.*

STAUNTON

Lordship contains 800 acres of land, inclosed about the year 1763. It belongs chiefly to two maiden ladies, the only surviving daughters of Job Staunton Charlton, esq. who served in parliament for *Newark* many years. He was the last male [of this branch] of this ancient family, and died about fifteen years ago. There are two other freeholds in this lordship, one belongs to the earl of *Besbrough*, and the other to John Wright, esq. banker, *Nottingham*.

Staunton lies about 7 miles north-east of *Bingham*. In the ancient family residence, near the church, live the ladies above-mentioned. This dwelling, from the late improvement in and about it, has a pleasing appearance, and the pleasure-grounds possess neatness.

Near the church also stands the chapel, mentioned by THOROTON, belonging to *Orston*, and now in disuse. The chapel duty being done in the church, by Mr. Fell, curate of *Orston*, for which there are ten pounds per annum paid by the Charlton family.

The church has a tower with four bells, and is spacious. It is dedicated to St. Mary. On a mural tablet, at the east end of the north aisle, are remembered Gilbert Charlton, esq. and Ann his wife. He was second son of Job Charlton, of *Ludford*, in the county of *Hereford*, bart. and died in 1706, aged 35. She was eldest daughter and co-heiress of Harvey Staunton, esq. of this place, and died in 1732, aged 65.*

* This union trasferred the Staunton estate, to the Charltons.—Thoroton says, that Harvey Staunton, the possessor in his time "has

Besides the old monuments of the Stauntons, and the remembrancers noticed in the note below, there are others of the Stauntons, whose inscriptions are almost obliterated. Upon the east wall, near the altar, "Ann, the widow of the Honorable Col. William Staunton, obiit Nov. 13, 1688; and Ann Sherwin, his daughter, obiit March 14th, 1725, aged 77. She left sixpence a week for dole-bread to the poor." This Col. Staunton, is noticed above by Thoroton. The following is on the north wall of the church, near the chancel,

"To the memory of Jane Degge, 10 years the second wife, and 41 years the widow of Simon Degge, of *Derby*, esq. who died the 29th of March, 1757, aged 74, and of Harvey Degge, his fifth, her second son, fellow of Trinity College, in *Cambridge*, who died 22nd of May, 1733, aged 25. He was the grandson, she the youngest of the four daughters and co-heirs of Harvey Staunton, esq. the last of that beloved family, lord of this manor; they both lie under the same grave-stone in the aisle opposite hereunto."

daughters and may have sons to continue this most ancient family in the male line;" in him, however, the Stauntons [of this branch] ended in the male line.

This Gilbert Charlton and Ann his wife had five children, *Lettice* born and buried at Ludford. *Emma* born in 1697, *Anne* in 1699, *Job Staunton* in 1700, and *Gilbert* in 1702. *Job Staunton* was the member for Newark, and father of the ladies, the present owners of the manor.—*Gilbert* was rector of this parish, and died in 1738. He is remembered with Elizabeth his wife on the north side of the chancel. *Anne* intermarried with Richard Brough, esq. who is remembered on a floor stone near the altar, he died in 1766, aged 71, and she in 1732, aged 33.

"This memorial of the place of the sepulchre of his mother and brother, was erected by Staunton Degge, rector of the church."

"Whosoever shall be in power here, let these Remains continue undisturbed, until they arise at the Resurrection of the Just, and triumphantly proclaim, O grave! where is thy victory!"

Patron, the ladies above named. Incumbent, the Rev. George Holt. King's books, £16..13..11½. Archiepisc. pro Syn. 6*s.* Archidiac pro prox. 7*s.* 6*d.* Val. in mans. ter. gleb. decim. garb. &c. yearly tenths £1..13..4½*.

* The work from which the above copious extract has been made is thus honorably mentioned in Camden's Britannia," p 483. "The Antiquities of the County of Nottingham were published by Dr. Robert Thoroton, a native of it, with great accuracy and exactness." Throsby, who published a new edition of it in 1797, speaks of the Staunton family having become extinct in the male line; being unaware that it still survived in other branches, as is amply proved by heraldic visitations, and other authentic documents and authorities, inserted in this volume. *Note of Editor.*

II.

EXTRACTS

FROM

The Harleian Manuscripts,

PRESERVED

IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

No. 1555.

The visitation of the county of Nottingham, made and taken by William Flower, als. Norroy king of armes, A. D. 1569; continued, enlarged, with the visitation of the same county made by Richard Saint George, Norroy king of armes, A. D. 1614, with many other descents of the same county, transcript per me,

RICHARD MUNDAY.

William Hussey - .....d. of
of Flintham ⅄ William Staunton.

Richard Yerburgh - Margarett, d. of
of Yerburgh [Thom. Portington

Mary, ux. Thom. Staunton
of Staunton,

SIR BRYAN DE STANTON. . . ,d
lived in ye 6th yere of Edward ye Confessor, he was ld. of Stanton, | of Theobald Chawser

Theobald Stanton – . . . . . d.
lord of Stanton | of Sir John Gifford

Sir Major Stanton – . . . . . d.
ld. of Stanton, knt. | of Thom. Fitzallan

Sir Major Stanton, knt – Beatrix, d. of Meares

Sir William Stanton of Stanton – Athelin, d. of Whitworth. | John

Sir Henery Stanton – . . . . . d of Thomas
of Stanton, knt. | Sir Geo. Rothford, knt.

Sir Geffrey Stanton, knt. – Alice, d of Roxsler.

Sir William Stanton, knt. – Isabell, d. of Sir Raff Chaworth. | Allice, ux. Steven Mandevile of Lord Rampton.

Sir William Stanton, knt. – Joane, d. of ye ld. Emcourte.

Sir J. Lowdham knt. – Allice, d. of Sir Rob. Kirton

Sir Geffrey Stanton knt. intaled his lands on his heirs male, 43 E. 3. | Joane d of Sir John Lowden knt. | John Stanton- Sir John Stanton of Com. Devon. | Sir Simon Stanton, parsonne of Stanton. | Thomas

Sir William Stanton knt. – Elizebeth, d. of Sir Brian Thorne, knt.

Willm. Hampsterly – Elizebeth, d & heire

Willm Hampsterly –

Hamond | Robert | William | Joane, ux. Willm. Frine.

No. 1533.

An Heraldical book in fol. almost all written and tricked by the hand of Mr. Richard Munday—containing the visitation of Buckingham, made by Wm. Harvey, Clarencieux, A. D. 1575, continued and enlarged with the visitation made in A. D. 1634, by John Phillipott, Somersett Herald, and William Ryley Blew-Mantell, Purcevant of armes.

THOMAS STANTON – of Stanton nere Belvoire, in c. Lester

- Thomas Stanton – of Stanton
- John Stanton, yonger sonn, ... – mentioned in a deed of intayle dated 15 Edw. 4.

Edward Stanton..... – of Wowborn in c. Bedford, purchaesd Smewens in c. of Bucks.

Edmond Stanton – of Smewens in c. Bucks | Elizabeth, d. of Reginald Bray 2 brother of Edmond Lord Bray

- Reginald Stanton – of Smewens, 1634 | Elizabeth, 1. d. of Anth. Shukborow of Shukborow in com. Northampton.
  - Anthony Stanton – Anne. 1 d. and one of ye 2 coheires of Edward Furtho of Furtho in com. Northton.
    - Sandys Stanton
    - Anthony
    - Reginald
    - Anne
    - Elizabeth
    - Susan
  - Elizabeth I ux. Robert Browne. 2.ux. Raffe Hough of London.
  - Mary ux. Wm. Stanton sonn of Sir Francis.
  - George now Ensigne to Sir Thomas Rotherams company in Galaway, Ireland.(2)
  - John
  - Edmond
  - Frances, ux. Rick. Sanders of Wanden in com. Buck.
- Elizabeth, ux. Sir Francis Stanton of Wowborne in com. Bedford(1)
- Anne, ux. Thomas Chamberlayne of Stratton Audley in com. Oxon.

No. 1400.

The visitation of Nottinghamshire made by Sir Richard St. George, Norroy King of Armes, in the year of our Lord God 1614, with other inlargements.

JOHN WITHIE, 1631.

Roger North – Elizabeth, d. to Anthony Staunton
of Walkeringham of Staunton in com. Nott.

William Hussey – d to William Stanton.

Richard Yarbrough – Margaret, d. to
Thomas Borrington

Marey, wife to Thomas
Stanton of Staunton

Richard Stanton

(1.) According to the Mss Pedigree in the hand writing of Thomas Staunton, esq. late M. P. for Ipswich, Sir Francis Stanton was the son of *John*, the younger brother of his wife's father *Edmond*.—Dr. Edmond Staunton, president of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, mentioned in the Memoir, *p.* 7, was a son of Sir Francis.

(2.) Ancestor of the Stauntons of Ireland, and father of the purchaser of Cargin.—This Heraldic Visitation thus completes the authentication of Sir George Leonard Staunton's pedigree from the commencement, down to the first settlement of his family in Ireland.—The more recent descents will be found in the extracts given in this Appendix from Playfair's Family Antiquity (art. Irish Baronetage), from the Mss. Pedigree already quoted, and from that taken from the Herald's College.

III.

EXTRACTS

FROM

Madox's Firma Burgi,

OR

AN HISTORICAL ESSAY CONCERNING THE CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS OF ENGLAND.

Edition of 1726.

p. 59.

"In the sixth year of K. Edw. II.—a Tallage (it was a Quinzieme of moveables, and a disme of Rents) was assessed upon the King's Burghs and demesnes in the County of Cambridg, by Robt. Baynard and others. It was assessed upon particular persons in the towns of Cambridge, Bernewell, Cesterton, and Saham, and upon the Town of Great Wylberham in Common." [*Note upon Saham.*]

p. 60.

"Adhuc de Tallagio prædicto Villatæ de Saham in comitatu. Cantebr(igsinæ) Saham; De Hervico de Stanton, firmario Manerii de Saham de tallagio mobilium suorum in eodem Manerio xxiiii*s.* De eodem Hervico de tallagio Redditus sui in eodem Manerio, xx*s.*"

p. 198.

"The said Weavers, afterwards in the fourteenth year of King Edward the second, were summoned before Hervicus de Staunton and his Companions, Justices Itinerant, at the Tower of London, to answer to the King in a plea of Quo Warranto, to shew by what warrant they claimed to have the said Gild, and the said Liberties, within the said City, (London) &c."

p. 280.

Contains an Extract, "Ex codice membraneo MS. I. 2. in Biblioth. Collegii Corporis Christi Cantabrigiæ; in Memorandis de Itinere Hervici de Staunton et soriorium ejus Justic. Itinerantium apud Turrim Londoniæ anno 14 Regis E. 11."

p. 285. *Note.*

"This Writ containeth the donations and confirmations made to the *Telarii Londoniæ.* Then followeth the tenour of a Record and process, which were had upon a *Quo Warranto* brought against the Telarii of the London-Gild, before Hervicus de Staunton and his companions, Justices Itinerant, at the Tower of London. It beginneth, Placita apud Turrim Londoniæ coram Hervico de Staunton et Sociis suis Justiciariis Domini Regis ibidem itinerantibus, in crastino Sancti Hillarii, anno Regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi quarto decimo."

IV.

EXTRACTS FROM

Dugdale's Origines Juridiciales.

1303. 31. Edw. I. Hervicus de Stanton, unus Justiciariorum Itinerantium. Dunelm: with 3 others.

1306. 34. Edw. I. Hervicus de Stanton constitutus Justic. de Banco 20 Apr. Pat. Edw. I. m. 27.

1307. 35. Edw. I. Hervicus de Stantone, unus Justic. ad Assisas. &c. in Com. Surr. Suss. Oxon. Southampt. Wilts. Somers. Dors. Devon. and Cornub. Liberatæ 35 Edward I. m. 13.

1311. 4. Edw. 2. Hervicus de Stanton, with two others (ad Assisas, &c.) Norff. Suff. Cantab. Hunt. Northampt.

1313. 6. Edw. 2. Herv. de Stanton and John Wogan (Just. Itin.) Kanc. Claus. 6. Edw. 2. in dorso m. 4.

1315 8. Edw. 2. Herv. de Stanton constit. Baron de Scaccar. in loco Walt. de Norwico. 20 Sept. Pat. 8. Edw. 2. P. 1. m. 20.

1323. 16. Edw. 2, Herv. de Stanton, Capitalis Justic. (ad Plac. coram Rege) Lib de anno 17 Edw. 2. m. 2.

1324. 17. Edw. 2. Herv. de Stanton, Capitalis Justic. (idem) Pat. 17. Edw. 2 P. 1. m. 9.

1327. 20. Edw. 2. Herv. de Stanton, constitutus Capitalis Justic. (de Banco) 18 Julii. Pat. 20 Edw. 2. m. 29.

Hervicus de Stanton constit. Capitalis Baro. de Scaccario 18 Julii. Ibid. m. 29.

V.

EXTRACTS

(CONTAINING THE NAME OF STAUNTON)

FROM THE

Calendarium Inquisitionum Post Mortem,

ABBREVIATIO ROTULORUM ORIGINALIUM,

AND THE

TESTA DE NEVILL.

35 Hen. III. (No. 51) Notting.

Si Simon de Stanton sit compos mentis?

Bundell. de incerto tempore Henrici tertii.

(109) Adam fil. Mathei de Stanton.

Stanton—Aldeport—terr. &c.

5 Edw. I. (22) Ebor.

Margar de Staunton.

Staynton Maner.—Tikehall Maner.

16 Edw. I. (19) Gloucestr.

Petrus de Staunton.

Staunton Maner. extent.—Thormerton terr. &c.

25 Edw. I. (51) Derb.

Robertus de Staunton.

Tenet Staunton Maner. pro dimid feod. & ecclia.

30 Edw. I. (139) Essex.

Matilda uxor Ricardi Battaille pro Aufrido de Staunton.

Wyleghe—Benetleghe Magna—Chyche—& Sancta Ositha—4 mess. 200 acr. terr. 7 acr. prat. 12 acr. pastur. 8 acr. bosci, & 2*s.* reddit.

31 Edw. I. (60) Somerset.

Willus de Staunton, clericus.

Bristoll. de officio recognicionum debitor. ibm.

34 Edw. I. (157) Suffolk.

Henricus de Stanton, de licencia feoffandi pro Mattheo filio John de Stanton.

Pakenham—Norton—Berton—Stowelangetoft—Thurston— & Ixwurthe unum messuag. ciiij. xx. acr. ter. 13 acr. prat. 22 acr. pastur. una acr. bosci, et 38*s.* reddittus ibm. Stanton tenta. &c.

35 Edw. I. (122) Bedford.

Alex. de Staunton et Raddus. Bot. pro Abbè de Wouburne.

Everesholt et Middleton Bryan unum mess. et 48 acr. terr.

(131) Herts.

Tho. de Stanton pro cap. in ecclia de Asshewelle.

Asshewelle 12 acr. terr.

19 Edw. II. (38) Notts.—Lincoln.

Willus. de Staunton.

Staunton maner. extent.—Flanbergh reddit. ibm.

Basingham maner. extent.—de honore Huntyngdon.

2 Edw. III. (2d numbers 100) Leic.

Alex. psona. eccl. de Stanton, pro Isabella uxore Simonis Basset de Sapecote.

Stanton maner. juxte Sapecote.

Tamworth sect. un.

3 Edw. III. (17) Nott.

Johes. fil. Johis. de Stanton de Lymar.

Stanton Lymar. maner.

(28) Henricus de Staunton—Essex.

Dedham maner. ut de Reymes honore.

4 Edw. III. (122) Heref.

Robtus. de Staunton pro priore et convent. de Wormesle.

Wormesle et Burghall, terr. ten. et bosc.

Credenhull maner. et Eccleswale maner. remanen. eid. Robto.

Staunton maner. remanen. eid. Robto.—Wigorn.

11 Edw. III. (44) Essex.

Aufridus de Staunton.

Wylege, 240 acr. terr. &c.—Bentlege, Chicche et St. Ositha, terr. et ten.—Alesford maner. cum advoc. eccl.—Pendryng, 60 acr. terr. &c. ibm.

16 Edw. III. (27) Glouc.

Johes. de Stanton.

Stanton un. caruc. terr. et 20 acr. prat. &c. ut parcell. maner.—Ballia. de Stanton in foresta de Dene cum feod. et profic.

17 Edw. III. (36) Essex.

Margeria uxor Humfr. de Staunton.

Wileghe terr. &c. in hundredo de Tendringe.—Alesford maner. ut de honore Bonon.

24 Edw. III. (51) Isabell uxor Galfri de Stanton.

Carleton et Tybenham, 16 acr. terr. &c.—Norfolc.

Stanton, 2 acr. terr. &c.—Suffolc.

25 Edw. III. (10) Elena de Stanton.

Wighton un. mess. et una acre terr. &c.—Ebor.

27 Edw. III. (32) Hervicus de Stantone.

Barsham maner. ut de honore de Castelacre.--Norf.

32 Edw. III. (second numbers 41) Notts.
Willus. de Staunton.
Gonerton, Blesby, et Gibsmere, 40 acr. terr. &c. ut de maner. de Southwell

36 Edw. III. (second numbers 2) Thomas fil. Galfri. de Stanton pro Edmundo Sharpe et al.
Carleton Rode, 4 acr. terr. &c.—Norfolc.

38 Edw. III. (41) Alicia de Staunton—Northton.
Stok Bruere maner. 3tia pars.
Aldrington maner. 3tia pars.

44 Edw. III. (58) Galfrus. de Staunton—Notts.
Staunton maner.—Eyleston maner.—ut de honore de Tykhill.

49 Edw. III. (42) Galfridus de Staunton, chr.—Notts.
Staunton maner. et advoc. ecclie.—Staunton vill. terr. et ten.—Kylvyngton, Alverton, Flaghbergh, et Dalyngton, terr. &c.——Kilvyngton, advoc. ecclie.—Egleston maner.—Tickhill-fee—Golehale maner.

(The printed Inquist. Post Mort. ends 51 Edw. III).

ABBREVIATIO ROTULORUM ORIGINALIUM.

16 Edw. I. De terr. et ten. q. fuerunt Petri de Staunton qui de Dionisia fil. et herede Will. de Monte Caniso def. infra etatem et in custod. R. ten. in cap. &c. Ro. 3.—(Citra Trent.)

21 Edw. I. (Derb.) Abbas de Burton sup. Trentam in cur. R. apud Appleby recupasset seis. suam versus Robtm. Abel et Eliam de Staunton de 10*s*. redd. cum. ptm. in Tikenhale, &c. Ro. 28.

27 Edw. I. (Of the same rent at Tike-hale.)

30 Edw. I. Aufridus de Staunton fecit finem (of Lands in Essex) R. 13.

8 Edw. II. (Hervicus de Staunton and others appointed Collectors of a 15th in London.) R. 7.

9 —— (Sale of Lands in Essex to Herv. de Staunton.) R.10.

10 —— Custod. commissit Robto. de Staunton, c. Lincoln. Ro. 17.

15 —— Commission to Hervicus de Staunton & others. R. 16

17 —— Mand. est Hervico de Staunton et sociis suis justic. Ro. 33.

——— Henricus de Staunton finem fecit (House in Canter.) Ro. 35.

19 —— De terr. et ten. q. fuer. Will. de Staunton q. &c. obiit. seis. Ro. 18.

20 —— Henricus de Staunton finem fecit (Cantbr.) Ro. 12

——— R. commissit Rob. de Staunton (lands in Derb) R. 14

——— Do. Will. de Staunton (lands in Norf.)——

1 Edw. III. Do. Robto. de Staunton man. de Thurmaston Derb. Ro. 19.

—— De terr. et ten. q. fuer, Hervici de Staunton def.— Ult. Trent. Ro. 23

3 — Do. do. Citr. Trent. Ro. 4.

(Glouc.) Ro. 15.

—— Do. do. Essex. Ro. 15

—— Do. q. fuer. Johis. fil. Johis. de Staunton de Lymar def. Ro. 8.

4 — Concessio coram Hervico de Staunton et sociis suis justic. Ro. 30.

—— Johes. fil. Robti de Staunton finem fecit (lands in Salop.) Ro. 43.

5 — Executores Hervici de Stanton, (Essex) Ro. 20.

—— Johes. de Stanton, clericus, (Suddele co. Glouc.) finem fecit. Ro. 44.

7 — Galfr. de Stanton duxit in ux. Isabell. Florenc. de Carleton. (Norff.) Ro. 8.

14 — Magr. Ric. de Stanton clericus (an Exor. of Nichs. de Hogate, York) Ro. 23.

16 — Rex cepit homag. Tho. fil et hedis. Johis. de Staunton de balliva vocata balliva de Staunton in foresta de Dene.

17 — Magr. Hernici de Staunton, (Surr.) Ro. 25.

18 — Henr. de Staunton (an Essex fine) Ro. 38.

20 — Johes de Staunton, miles, (do.) Ro. 36.

20 — Johes de Staunton chivaler et Alicia ux. (do.) Ro. 62.

23 — Agatha q. fuit. ux. Jolus. de Stanton Dryedrayton (Cantebr) Ro. 31.

24 — Isabella q. fuit ux. Galfri de Stanton (Norff) Ro. 15

48 — Thomas de Stanton consang. and heres Willi Horence (Norff) Ro. 61

44 — Man. de Staunton, &c. in com. Notting, q. fuer. Will. de Stanton def. Ro. 6.

TESTA DE NEVILL.

Page 5, 9, Robt. fil. Willi. de Stanton, half Knts. fee in Ston-stanton.

20, 21, Honor. de Lanc. (in Notts.) Walt. de Staunton, 1 Knts. fee in Crophill.

20, 22, Baronia Deincurt (in Notts.) Malg. de Stanton, half Knts. fee in Stanton.

44, 47, 49, (Salop and Stafford) Steph. de Stanton, 2 Knts. fees in Stanton, Rudene, and P'ston.

47, (Salop. and Staff.) Lucianus de Stanton, tcia. pte. feodi in Stanton et Athelaxton.

58, 59, Nich. de Staunton tenet xij. acr. terr. in Sutton.

58, 59, Rogerus de Staunton tenet una bovat. terr. in do.

60, (Tenants of Sir Rob. de Sutton) Rogs. fil. de Robti. de Stanton—Nichs. fil. Regin. de Stanton.

64, 68, (Hereford) Andr. de Stanton holds in Stanton.

85, (Warr. & Leic.) In Frisely, Ph. de Staunton, j. car.

95, In Overton Sauce and Swaninton—Ph. de Stanton.

131, (Berk.) In Bochampton, Rad. de Stanton.

200, (Surrey) In Staunton—Rob. de Staunton.

303, Feoda W. de Lungespeye com. Sar.——Johes. de Staunton terr. in Burton et Scamelesby.

356, (Cant.) Ph. de Stanton j. feod.

357, Ph. de Stanton deb. j. marc.

VI.

Genealogy of the Stauntons of Bedfordshire,

WRITTEN IN 1612, BY A MEMBER OF THAT FAMILY;

AND COMMUNICATED TO THE EDITOR BY

WILLIAM STAUNTON, ESQUIRE, OF LONGBRIDGE.

1. Sir Major Stanton, knight, had issue
   Sr. Major Stanton, knight.
2. Sir Major Stanton y^e^ 2 had issue
   Sir William Stanton and John Stanton
3. Sir William Stanton had issue
   Sir Henry Stanton Lord Chief Justice of y^e^ common please at Westminster, and Robert Stanton.
4. Sir Henry Stanton, issue
   Sir Jeffery Stanton and Symon Stanton.
5. Sir Jeffery Stanton, issue
   Wm. Stanton, Richd. Stanton, Robt. Stanton, John Stanton, and Margaret Stanton, wch. Margaret married with Sir Theobald Tricingham alls Trickingham.
6. Sir William Stanton had issue
   Sir William Stanton.

7. Sir William Stanton had issue
Sir Jeffery Stanton, John Stanton, Sir Simon Stanton, Tho. Stanton.

8. Sir Jeffery Stanton had issue
Sir William Stanton, Sir Thos. Stanton, Ralph Stanton, Alice Stanton, wch Alice married with Stephen Mandavile of Rampton, and made a general intaile to the heires mailes Ao. 43. E. 3.

9. Sir William Stanton had issue
Elizabeth Stanton who married with Willm. Hemsterley and had given in francke marriage with her the manner of E. . . . ton.

10. Ralph Stanton y^e^ 3 Son had issue
Tho. Stanton, Willm. Stanton, Margaret Stanton, Elizabeth Stanton, and Jo. Stanton.

11. Tho. Stanton had issue
Tho. Stanton.

12. Tho. Stanton y^e^ 2 son of Sir Jeffery had issue
Wm. Stanton senior, Geo. Stanton, William Stanton junior, Tho. Stanton and John Stanton, and intailed y^e^ manner of Stanton, Kilvington, Alverton, Flaborough, and Dallington, Die Jovis prox. post festinum . . . . . A. D. 15 E. 4. to y^e^ heires mailes. From this John Stanton came all wee of Bedfordshire.

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . Stanton had issue
Robert Stanton, John Stanton, William Stanton, Eliza Stanton, Marie Stanton, Ellen Stanton, and Katherine Stanton.

15. Robert Stanton had issue
William Stanton, Anna Stanton, and Mary Stanton.

16 William Stanton is yet living, and seized of Stanton y^e^ other 4 manners intayled (viz. Sept. 9th, 1612.)

Sir Major Stanton, knight.

Sir Major Stanton, knight.

Sir William Stanton, his sonn and heire

Sir Jeffery Stanton the sonn and heire of Sir Hen. Stanton.

Sir William Stanton his sonn and heire.

Sir Geffery Stanton the sonn and heire of Sir Hen. Stanton.

Sir William his sonn and heire.

Sir William Stanton .....

Sir Jeffery Stanton his sonne and heire.

Ralph Stanton Esq. his 3 sonnes and heires.

Thomas Stanton his sonne and heire.

Thomas Stanton his sonne and heire.

Thomas Stanton his 4 sonnes and heirs

Antho. Stanton his sonne and heire.

Robt. Stanton his 2 sonnes and heires.

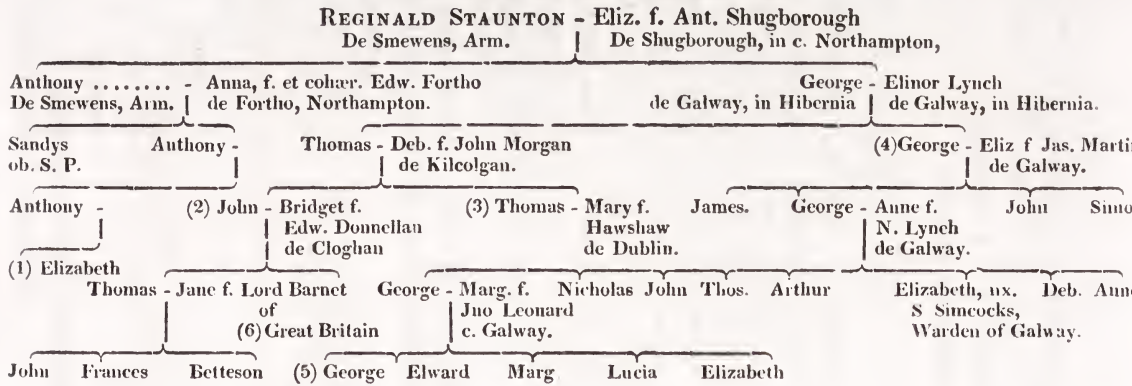
William Stanton his sonne and heire.

Living Sept. 9, 1612.

These are the names of ye. Stantons of Stanton in the county of .....
yt. weire seized of the .....
Stanton and ye others by .....

VII.

Extract from a Mss. Pedigree, by Thomas Staunton, esq. late M. P. for Ipswich,
Written between the years 1747 and 1750.



(1) Elizabeth Stokes of Great Branmore, in c. Essex, conveyed and gave to John Staunton of Galway, esq. the estate of Smewens, and all the estates of their great-grandfather, Reginald, in Bucks, which are now (1750) in the possession of Thomas Staunton, esq.

(2) John had also a younger son, John, and two daughters, Deborah, married to Jas. Nugent, esq. of c. of Westmeath, and Anne, married to B. Gunning, esq. of c. of Roscommon.

(3) Thomas had one daughter, Deborah, married to John Rochford, esq. of Dublin.

(4) George had also four daughters—Katherine, married to John Taylor, esq of Castle Taylor, in the c. of Galway; Elizabeth, married to B. Browne, esq. of Dublin; Mary, mar. to W. Skerrett, esq. of c. Clare; and Elinor, mar. to I. Blake, esq. of Galway.

(5) Since created a Baronet of Ireland, 31st Oct. 1785. (6) Afterwards Earl of Darlington.

VIII.

NOTE OF

Probates of Wills,

NOW IN THE PREROGATIVE COURT OF YORK.

The will of Thomas Staunton, of Staunton, esq. dated 29th of March, 1447. Proved May 4th, 1447, gives his property to his wife Margaret and his eldest son Thomas Staunton, and appoints them and Hugh Wednyssone of Alfreton his exors.

The will of Thomas Staunton of Staunton, esq. dated 13th August, 1485. Proved 20th April, 1486. No lands—George, son—Elizabeth Byngham, daughter—William and George, his sons and exors.

The will of William Staneton, of Staneton, Notts. esq. dated 1st of July, 1497.—No lands.—Katherine, his wife, and Rich. Disnay, exors.

The will of the Rev. William Stanton, rector of Stanton, dated 23d of September, 1504. Proved 5th Nov. 1504. Names of legatees—Thomas Stanton, Willm. Terrold, Marg. Bingham, John Stanton, Thos. Ingolsby, Kath. Watham, George Wright, Thomas Almons, and John Leghton.—Simon Yatts, Richard Smyth of Kilvington, clk. and Robt. Pocock, exors.

The will of Thomas Staunton, of Staunton, esq. dated 30th Dec. 1517. Proved 28th April, 1518.—Wills his feoffees of his land to stand seized of his manor of Staunton, and all his lands and tenements to the same manor belonging to the use of himself and wife, and the life of the survivor, and after their decease to the use of his right heirs for ever. Legatees—Ann, his wife; Millicent Elizabeth and Annas, his daughters; John, his son. His wife, Ann, sole extrix.

IX.

EXTRACTS

FROM THE

Life and Death of Dr. Edmund Staunton,

WRITTEN BY RICHARD MAYO,

AND PUBLISHED IN 1673.

In virum reverendissimum Edmundum Staunton, S. F. D. C. C. C. Oxoniens. præsidem (non ita pridem) Ditissimum Acrosticum.

E cce virum cælo dignum, dignitate Jehova;
D ux erat ille gregis, Rector, Pastorque probatus
M ille patrem hunc animæ poterant dictare beatum;
V irtutum centrum dulci fulgore coruscans,
N on parcum Christo tot consignare labores.
D octis atque piis quam suavi melle fluentes;
V ictor jam lætus cum Jesu mente triumphat
S ursum corde sequi, nos parvos integer urgens.
S in dicas desunt vires; quis suppetat unde
T alia cælicolæ vestigia tangere possum:
A spice de cælo Christi manus Omnipotentis
V ictrix, qua fretus nil non te posse putandum
N il ultra objicias, audi, vide, tangeto facta
T itanis clare, radios spargentis amicos
O rbi Christicolæ hoc obstetricante libello
N ec sit qui maculas ausit conspergere nigras. J. B.

EDMUNDUS STAUNTON, ANAGRAMMA,
Non adest, ut Mundus.

Non ut Mundus adhest nobis: hic infima spernit
Non ut Mundus abest. Qui perit absque mora
Mundus abest præsens, absens, at adest *Makaritas.*
Staunton, quem nobis reddit, amica fides.

In obitum Reverendi admodum Edmundi Staunton, S. F. D. Collegii Corporis Christi apud Oxonienses quondam Præsidis.

Heroas nimium festina morte peremptos
Mæstaque, tu vatum funera, dulce caput.
Excipis (heu) dura fate constrictus eadem
Lege: illam Plutus, quando refugit atrox!
In genus humanum, quando feritate remota
Mitescit demum post Spolia ampla satis
Si quid apud Parcas, valuisset candor honestus.
Insignis nec non intemerata fides
Flectere si possent maleficas ulla sorores
Quæ vel, suspiciunt quave stupere solent,
Mortales, hodie nos te potiremur, Amice
Agmine cultorum cinctus et ipse fores.
Ast quicquid pulchrum terrarum ubicunque revidet,
Quicquid magnificum personat, atque plebi,
Exemptum statim mala surripit Atropos. Orbem,
Nempe premit Virtus, obruit ipsa, suæ,
Dispergit radios dum majestatis onustos.
Ito Phile, ac inter sidera quære locum;
Machina terrestris te longe indigna reducat
Saturnus terris, aurea scecula licet.

planxit Jonathan Tuckney, Cantabrigiensis, A. M. Coll. S. Joan. Evangelistæ nuper Soc.

In Reverendissimum, dignissimumque virum Edmundum Stauntonem, S. F. D. et Herculeum quondam doctissimi Calvini propugnatorem.

Tu bene legisti, Calvinum vera docentem
Tu bene cepisti, candida sensa viri.
Dum blaterent hostes, Blasphemum et figere scriptis
Peccata Autori pessima quæque Deo;
Hos debellasti, fastu quam felle tumentes,
Frendebant luctui, visit at Oxonium.
Oscula multa dedit, plaudens Academia. Cælo
Calvinus tibi, nunc Oscula multa dedit.
Vivite Consortes, Paradiso vivite juncti
Nam studiis, Animis et pietate pares.

BENE AGAS.

Whilst Dr. Edmund Staunton lived at Kingston begetting many sons, and daughters unto God, he had also many sons and daughters begotten of his own body; ten of which lie buried in one grave in the parish church of Kingston, on which he hath laid a fair stone with this epitaph fairly engraven on it.

Here lye the Bodies

of	Francis	Richard
	Richard	Edmund
	Mary	Edmund
	Matthew	Sarah
	Mary	Richard

Children which the Lord graciously gave to Edmund Staunton, D. D. late minister of Kingston upon Thames now president of C. C. C. in Oxford, by Mary his wife daughter of Richd. Balthorpe, Esq. servant to the late Queen Elizabeth.

Ten children in one grave! a dreadful sight.
Seven sons, and daughters three, Job's number right.
Childhood and youth are vain, death reigns o'er all,
Even those that never sin'd, like Adam fall,
But why o'er all? in the first man every one
Sinned and fell, not he himself alone.
Our hope's in Christ, the second Adam; He
Who saves the Elect from sin and misery.
What's that to us, poor children? 'tis our creed,
God is a God to the faithful and their seed.
Sleep on, dear children, never more to wake,
Till Christ doth raise you, and to glory take.

He lies interred in the parish church of Bovingdon aforesaid, under a fair stone, with this epitaph ingraven upon it, made by the Rev. Dr. Simon Ford.

In Memoriam
Eruditi et Sanctissimi Viri
Edmundi Staunton,
S. F. D.

Qui annum agens Septuagesimum primum, Decimo quarto die Julii, Anno Domini, 1671, Spiritum ejus in manus Domini Jesu Christi, summa pace deposuit.

Scire cupis, Lector, cujus lapis iste sepulti est?
En lege, summissa, sed lege, voce precor.
Se solum nota latuit pietate modestus,
Erubuitque suis conscius esse bonis.
Unde hæc, vera licet, si norit forte, verendum
Ne fugiat marmor, vel cinis ipse loquax.

SIR FRANCIS STAUNTON of Woburne and Birchmore, c. Bedford - Elizabeth, d. of Edward Staunton, of Smewens, c. Buckingham.

William Staunton - Mary, d. of Reginald, of Smewens, c. Buckingham.

..... - d. of Scudamore, of Watford, c. Herts.

(1) Edmund - Mary, d. of Richard Balthrope, esq. born in 1600, died in 1671, buried at Bovingdon

one daughter.

one son living in 1672.

Francis Richard Mary Mathew Mary

Richard Edmund Edmund Sarah Richard

Ten children buried in one grave at Kingston-upon-Thames.

(1) He was admitted into C. C. C. at Oxford, and chosen a probationer-fellow there; he was afterwards instituted to the vicarage of Kingston-upon-Thames in 1632, became one of the Assembly of Divines, and, being a zealous writer on behalf of the Puritans, was made president of Corpus Christi College, in Oxford. Upon this preferment he quitted Kingston, and was succeeded by his curate, Richard Mayo. I have a Funeral Sermon, which was preached by Dr. Staunton, in 1654, at the funeral of Mrs. Eliz. Wilkinson, late wife of Dr. H. Wilkinson, principal of Magdalen Hall. *Note of* W. S.

X.

EXTRACT

FROM

THE MEMOIRS OF

The Life of Colonel Hutchinson,

Quarto, p. 150.

About this time a woman was taken, whereof the committee had before been informed, that she carried intelligence between Col. Pierrepoint and his mother, the Countess of Kingston. The woman was now going through Nottingham, with letters from the old countess to her daughter-in-law, the colonel's wife, who was then at Clifton, Sir Gervas Clifton's house. In this pacquet there was a letter drawn, which the countess advised her daughter to sign, to be sent to Colonel Staunton, one of the King's colonels, to entreat back from him some goods of her husbands, which he had plundered; wherein there were these expressions:—"that, though her husband was unfortunately engaged in the unhappy rebellion, she hoped ere long he would approve himself a loyal subject to his Majesty."

XI.

Epitaph on a Monument,

IN THE CHURCH AT STAUNTON.

Sacred to the memory of Job Staunton Charlton, esq. first son of Gilbert Charlton esq. and grandson of Sir Job Charlton, of Ludford, in the co. Hereford, Bart. and Ann his wife: She was the first daughter of Harvey Staunton, esq. whose ancestors inherited the estate here from the time of the Saxons in 1066.

Sir Malger Staunton defended Belvoir Castle against the first Duke of Normandy, called William the Conqueror, and had the strongest fortress therein, ever since called (by his name) Staunton Tower.

The above Job Staunton Carlton was member for the Borough of Newark in several Parliaments, and died in February, 1778, aged 78 years. He married Mary, the daughter of Daniel Greenwood, M. D. of Northampton, and who died in March, 1777. They had four daughters: Anne, Emma, Mary, and Elizabeth, who all died unmarried. Mary died in February, 1773, Elizabeth in October, 1778, Emma died in January, 1797, and Anne, the eldest and last surviving daughter, died April 11th, 1807, leaving her Staunton estate to her second cousin, Elizabeth, the daughter of Job Brough, esq. and wife of the Rev. I. Aspinshaw, LL. D. who directed by her last will and testament, that they and their issue should take the name, and bear the arms of Staunton only, and who have out of grateful remembrance to her erected this monument.

XII.

Extract from Dugdale's Warwickshire,

Edit. 1730. Vol. II. p. 665.

TIT. WOLVERTON.

—After the dissolution whereof, in 37 H. 8. it was past out of the crown, 13 Julii, the same year, unto Clement Throkmorton, esq. and Alexander Abenon, and their heirs: which Clement dyed seized of it, 13th Dec. 16 Eliz. leaving Job, his son and heir, 28 years of age; who sold it soon after, to William Baylies, and Thomas Staunton, gent.: for within two years after, I find that they kept a Court Baron here, as lords thereof; the grandchild of which Thomas enjoyed it (in ann. 1640) and it still continues in the same family, which is a branch of the family of the Stauntons, of Staunton, in Nottinghamshire, an account whereof you will find in Thoroton's Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, p. 157. They give for their arms, arg. two chevrons sable, and these of Warwickshire the same, with the addition of a border. This coat they took from Albany, lord of Belvoir, who bore for his arms, or. two chevrons and a border gules, as holding lands of him by the tenure of castle-gard, by keeping and defending a tower in the castle of Belvoir, which is to this day called Staunton Tower. Those who were either menial attendants, or else feodaries to any noble personage, or which held lands of them by any certain service, or otherwise devoted unto them, did usually assume to themselves for their arms the device of the coat of the lord, either by changing the colors, retaining the charge, or by adding something to it.

XIII.

EXTRACT FROM DYER'S History of the University of Cambridge,

Vol. II. p. 284.

TRINITY COLLEGE.

Michael House, according to the charter of foundation, was founded by Hervey, sometimes called, inaccurately, Henry, of Staunton, priest, one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the reign of Edward II.—having obtained a licence, for the purpose, of the King, and a confirmation of it under the Seal of Hotham, bishop of Ely, and of the convent of Ely. A. D. 1324, in the 18th year of Edw. II. according to archbishop Parker: to its use he assigned the rents and patronage of several rectories, and it obtained several privileges of Pope Boniface IX.

The other benefactors to this house may be seen in the several Histories of Cambridge.

According to Baker, the statutes were given in 1324, confirmed in 1397, and the appropriation of St. Michael's Church was given in 1324. It was a house of great account; and the statutes being the first given to any College in the University (even before those of Peter House, as already noticed) are, as Baker observes, on that account, a great rarity. They may be seen in Baker's Mss. in the University library of Cambridge, vol. 31.—"But it was a great omission," he adds, "that no oath was required of the master.—"

—On the dissolution of religious houses, three several hostles [St. Michael's House, King's Hall, and Phiswicke's hostle] were formed into one grand establishment; and from the three principal ones, out of the funds of which it was endowed, it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, being called by the founder, TRINITY COLLEGE.—

—He [Henry VIII.] took possession of the sites, and seized the revenues of the three houses just mentioned; Michael House, whose annual rents amounted to £144..3..1; King's Hall, the best landed institution in the University; and Phiswicke's Hostle, valued, as already observed, at £3 a year: in lieu of the latter he settled on Gonville Hall its yearly value of £3, with a promise of something still in reserve.—These, and other revenues, he settled on his new foundation; and his encouragement of literature was deemed a sufficient apology for his attack on superstition.

XIV.

EXTRACT

FROM THE

Beauties of England and Wales,

Vol. XII. P. 1. p. 246—248.

Staunton lies about seven miles S. S. E. of Newark, and the same distance to the north east of Bingham; and is situated in the vale of Belvoir, at the extremity of the county, adjoining Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, about two miles from Long Bennington, through which the north road passes, and is 120 miles from London.

The lordship of *Staunton* contains 1300 acres of land, and was inclosed in the year 1760. The soil is clay, which produces good wheat and beans, and excellent grazing ground: there is a quarry of exceeding good stone in the parish, having three strata; the first is thin and shivery, only fit for the top dressing of roads; the second is a hard blue stone, proper for building and burning into lime, which is equal in quality to the Barrow lime in Leicestershire, being impervious to water; and the third stratum is a large flooring stone, used by the inhabitants in laying the floors of their

dwellings; it has also been known to polish for chimney pieces. As the lime is so very similar in quality to the Barrow lime, it is supposed that the same strata of stone run from Barrow through Staunton to Beacon hill near Newark.

Staunton belonged to two maiden ladies, Anne and Emma, the only surviving daughters of Job Staunton Charlton, esq. who served in Parliament for the borough of Newark for many years. He was the last male heir of this most ancient family, and died in January, 1777. His father was Gilbert Charlton, second son of Sir Job Charlton, of Ludford, in the county of Hereford, baronet; and his mother Anne, the eldest daughter of Harvey Staunton, esq. whose ancestors have been in possession of this place, from the time of the Saxons in 1066. This union transferred the Staunton estate to the Charltons, and upon the death of Anne, the eldest and last surviving daughter of the above named Job Staunton Charlton, (who died in 1807,) she left her estates at Staunton and in Yorkshire to her second cousin Elizabeth, the daughter of Job Brough, esq. of Newark, and the wife of the Rev. John Ashpinshaw, LL. D. and directed by her last will and testament, that they and their issue should take the name and bear the arms of Staunton only, which was confirmed by the king's sign manual June 20th, 1807, and registered in the College of Arms.

The mansion is a handsome and noble structure, with many very excellent rooms therein of large dimensions, and the gardens and pleasure grounds are very beautiful and extensive, from whence there is a

delightful view of Belvoir Castle, the seat of his grace the Duke of Rutland. Sir Mauger Staunton defended this castle against William the First, duke of Normandy, generally styled William the conqueror, and there made his composition and contract for his lands, and had the strongest fortress therein, ever since called by his name " Staunton's Tower."

The church is a handsome structure, with a tower, containing four bells, and is dedicated to St. Mary. In the church are many monuments of the Stauntons, of great antiquity.

The Rev. Dr. Staunton, the present possessor, has made great improvements in planting and ornamenting the place. The tower of the church and the woods about the mansion may be seen from the north road between long Bennington and Newark*.

* A fuller account of Staunton, and the Staunton Family, may be seen in Thoroton's Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, p. 156, and in that very excellent and voluminous work, Nicholls' History of Leicestershire, vol. II. p. p. 26, 27, 84, under the head of " Belvoir." The Arms of Staunton are, argent, two chevronels sable. Crest, a fox passant proper.

The present Arms are, argent, two chevronels sable; and (for distinction) on a canton azure, a quatrefoil or; crest, a fox passant proper, charged (for distinction) with a quatrefoil.

NORTH FRONT OF STAUNTON HALL,

The Seat of the Rev.d Sir Staunton.

XV.

ORIGINAL NOTE

ON

The Name of Stanton or Staunton,

COMMUNICATED

BY WILLIAM STAUNTON, ESQ. OF LONGBRIDGE.

The name is of Saxon origin, and compounded of the words STAN (a stone) and TUN (a town). This derivation may account for the frequency of the name in many counties, the generality of which, as I believe, are written *Stanton:* it seems to me that this is the true orthography, as being nearest to its Saxon derivation, and I am not able to account for the insertion of the letter *u*. The name has been indiscriminately written Stanton and Staunton, both by the Nottinghamshire family and its branches.

In the early copy of the Visitation of Notts. the name is Stanton in every entry without exception.

In an extract from the Harl. Mss. No. 6593, the name is Stanton.

In Dugdale's Origines Juridiciales, the name is Hervicus de Stanton.

In the extracts from the wills in the Prerogative office at York, the name is Stanton, Staunton, and even Staneton.

In the Visitation of Notts. A. D. 1662, in the Herald's office, it is Stanton in the three first generations only, and Staunton in the others.

In Thoroton's Notts. it is always STAUNTON.

As to the Buckinghamshire family—in three copies of the Visitation of that county, Harl. Mss. Nos. 1102, 1193, and 1533, the name is invariably Stanton.

In the copy of the old Mss. in my possession, which is the descent of the Notts. family: the name is always Stanton; and this was evidently written by one of the Bedfordshire family.

As to the Longbridge family, the name is Stanton in the Herald's office: in the original papers of the Visitation, A. D. 1619, amongst the Harl. Mss. No. 1195, it is Staunton in every instance except the first; and in the earliest family deed in my possession, A. D. 1460, the name is Staunton.

Not only from these instances, but from general observation, I am convinced that the name has been very indiscriminately written Stanton and Staunton, having seen it so used, not only in the same deed, but even in two successive lines*.

W. S.

* It may be proper to add, that all the *known* branches of the family at present concur in spelling the name thus, STAUNTON, agreeably to the authority of Thoroton. *Note of the Editor.*

XVI.

ORIGINAL NOTE
ON
The Arms of Staunton of Staunton,
AND ITS BRANCHES,

COMMUNICATED
BY WILLIAM STAUNTON, ESQ. OF LONGBRIDGE.

The armorial bearings of this family in Notts. seem to have been originally, Two bars, and a large canton, charged with a mullet of six points; such, at least, were the arms of Galfridus de Staunton, A. D. 1257.—Sir William de Staunton, his son, bore, Argent, two chevrons sable. See Thoroton's Notts. p. p. 156, 157, and also the Index of Arms, Tab. 3, at the end.

This family have also borne, Argent, two chevrons sable, within an *engrailed bordure:* See Thoroton's Index of Arms, Tab. 3.—and also the last of the four tombs of Thoroton's plate, at p. 54 of his History.—The use of the bordure by them is also proved by the pedigree from the Visitation, Harl. Mss. No. 1555, where it is so drawn, quartering Barwick, Curson, and Hussey: and also by the Harl. Mss. No. 6593, where the arms are so described.—This coat might probably have been taken from that of Albany, lord of Belvoir, which was, two chevrons, within a plain bordure, (see the Index of Arms, Tab. 3.) but the colours of Staunton are different, and the Bordure is engrailed, for distinction sake.

In Thoroton's plate of tombs, at p. 54, are two Sir Major Stauntons: the shield of one has the two bars, and the other the two chevrons, without a bordure; this latter bearing opposes the supposition that the arms, till Galfridus, A. D. 1257, were the two bars, and a canton charged with a mullet.

That the engrailed bordure has been used by the Buckinghamshire family, is seen by the extract from Harl. Mss. No. 1045, having sketches of the arms of Browne and Staunton, and Houghe and Staunton.

The Longbridge and Wolverton branches have always used the engrailed bordure*.

W. S.

* The coat of Arms of the Stauntons of Ireland, as well as the Stauntons of Nottinghamshire, has been (for a very long period) Two Chevronels sable, on a field Argent, with a fox passant proper for a Crest, without the engrailed bordure—as represented in stone over the porch of Staunton Hall, with the date 1553, the year in which the Hall was erected, or, at least, rebuilt.—This Coat was no doubt taken from that of Albany, Lord of Belvoir, with whose daughter, Beatrix, the second Malger of the family intermarried in the year 1129, the 29th Henry I. These Arms, together with a quatrefoil, on a canton azure, by way of distinction, have been since specially granted to the present owner of the Manor of Staunton, on his taking the name of Staunton.

Note of the Editor.

XVII.

Copy of Patent of Arms,

Certified by the Lyon Office in 1817.

To all and Sundry, whom these presents do or may concern, we, Thomas Robert, Earl of Kinnoul, &c. Lord Lyon, King of Arms, do hereby certify and declare, that the Ensigns Armorial pertaining, and belonging to Sir George Thomas Staunton, Baronet; which Sir George Thomas Staunton, Baronet, is now of Cargin, in the county of Galway, in Ireland, one of His Majesty's Commissioners of Embassy to the Court of Pekin, and Fellow of the Royal Society of London, only child of the late Sir George Leonard Staunton, of Cargin aforesaid, Baronet, deceased, one of the Commissioners for making peace with Tippoo Sultaun, in the year 1784, and Secretary of Embassy, and Minister Plenipotentiary (during the absence of the Embassador) to the Emperor of China, in the year 1792: which Sir G. L. Staunton was created a Baronet, 31st of October, 1785, and was descended from Edmund Staunton, of Smewens, in the county of Buckingham, esq. who intermarried with Elizabeth, niece of Edmund, Lord Bray; which Edmund Staunton derived his descent from the ancient family of that name, proved by authentic documents to have been seated at Staunton, in the county of Nottingham, for at least three generations, previous to the reign of King Henry III: are matri-

culated in the public Registers of the Lyon Office, and are blazoned, as on the margin, thus, viz. Argent, two Cheveronells Sable, with the badge of a Baronet of Great Britain; above the shield is placed a helmet befitting his degree, with a mantling gules, the doubling argent, and on a wreath of his Liveries is set for crest, on a mount vert a Fox statant proper, on a compartment below the shield, on which is this motto, "*En Dieu ma Foy*," are placed for supporters on either side, a Fox proper, each gorged with an eastern crown, Or, and pendant therefrom an Escutcheon, that on the dexter, purpure charged with an Etoile Vert, bordered and radiated, Or, between eight stripes or spots of the Tyger in pairs, saltierwise of the second, in allusion to the standard of Tippoo Sultaun; and that on the sinister, Or, charged with a representation of the Imperial Dragon of China, Vert: Which armorial ensigns and supporters, we do hereby ratify and confirm to the said Sir George Thomas Staunton, Baronet, and his heirs male, as their proper Arms and bearing in all time ensuing. In testimony whereof these presents are subscribed by James Home, of Linhouse, esq. our deputy, and the seal of our office is appended hereunto, at Edinburgh, this 12th day of Sept. in the year 1817.

(signed) JAMES HOME.

Lyon office, Edin. 12th Sept. 1817,

This Patent is duly entered on the record of the Lyon office, by me, (signed) JOHN KER,
Herald painter, and keeper of Lyon Records. (L. S.)

Sir George Staunton Bart.

XVIII

Miscellaneous Extracts,

COMMUNICATED

BY WILLIAM STAUNTON, ESQ. OF LONGBRIDGE.

In the Museum at Oxford, is "A collection of arms in the windows of the church of Southwell, taken by Elias Ashmole, esq. in the year 1662."

In the windows of the South aisle of the church, amongst others, is the coat of Staunton of Staunton.

In the Bodleian Library, at Oxford, in a Mss. book, marked Rawlinson, 1396, are the armorial bearings of several families, which are stated to have been copied from the windows of the church of Southwell, and many of them have the names subjoined: amongst others is Stanton of Stanton.

These two Mss. may afford some inferences, from which may be ascertained, who were the principal contributors to the erection of that stupendous fabric, the cathedral church of Southwell, in Nottinghamshire.

The following entry is in a thin tract, entitled "The Names of the Nobility, Gentry, and others, who contributed to the defence of this Country, at the time of the Spanish Invasion, in 1588."

"William Staunton, of Staunton, gen. 15 die Junii £25"

Forty nine other names appear as contributors for the county of Nottingham; £25 is the sum subscribed in every instance except five of £50 each.

In St. Michael's church at Coventry, affixed to the east wall of Mercer's chappel, is a small monument, with the following inscription; the arms, in a lozenge, are argent, two chevrons sable, surmounted by a helmet, and fox for the crest:

Forbid not little ones to come unto Christ; for of such is ye kingdom of Heaven.

Out of these stones shall God rayse a childe of William Staunton of Staunton, in com. Nott. esq. and Anne, his wife; who hear offer up as holy to the Lord ye first fruits of ye wombe, theyr eldest daughter, Frauncis, who performed hir vow to forsake ye worlde, Anno ætatis 7 An. salutis 1638.— This, no monument of theyr greife, but a memorial of that blessing, the guift whearof they so loved that they helde even ye losse deare.

Dear losse, who this remaynes alone,
That we, bad parents, give a stone,
Since destiny, as it appeares,
By method kills not, nor by yeares.
And thou, who tookest our shape and breath,
Are made or. auncient, now in deathe;
Be thou or. pledge to Heaven, whilst we
Hast to the grave, to follow thee.

At the bottom of the monument are the following lines:

To live, nor know life, did advaunce
Thy life to extasy and traunce:
That what was dreame before past on:
Consumated in vision.
The tree of knowledge scap'd untasted is,
Thy plea to innocence and paradice.

XIX

EXTRACT
FROM
Playfair's Family Antiquity.

STAUNTON.

This family is originally of Nottinghamshire, of great antiquity and respectability; and though the name has not been ennobled, it has ever maintained the station, scarcely less enviable, of country gentleman. Many of its branches have honorably served the state in parliament, on the bench, in the church, and in the army; and the heiress of Harvey Staunton, of Staunton, esq. in that county, the last of the male line of this branch of the family, is now in possession of that estate in the lordship of Staunton, and has assumed the name of Staunton.

Its descent may be regularly traced from the period of William the Conqueror, when we find that Malgerus de Staunton had a son, Galfridus, who married Beatrix de Muscamp, daughter of the Lord of Belvoir, by whom he had Malger, who succeeded him, and received the honor of knighthood; Robert; and Hugo. This Galfridus de Staunton gave lands in Kelum to the monastery of Rufford, in the county of Nottingham, which King Stephen confirmed, viz. five Bovats, by the consent of Beatrice de Muscamp, his wife, and Malger his son; and confirmed likewise 40 acres there, which those monks, had of the gift of Malger de

Rolleston. Beatrice de Muscamp, after the death of her husband, the said Galfridus de Staunton, for three marks and a cow, which she received of the said monks, in the presence and by the consent of her second husband, Eudo de Aubeni, confirmed to them the said five bovats, though they were part of her dower. And William, son of Malger de Staunton, (who also had a son, Roger de Thourleby) also confirmed this gift of his grandfather's, the said Galfridus de Staunton.

This William, who was also knighted, made free Hugh Travers, son of Simon de Auvrington, and all his progeny, because he took a cross for him to Jerusalem: so he did also John, the son of Simon de Auvrington, and gave them to God, and the Church of St. Mary of Staunton, to be in the protection of the Rector of Staunton. He married Athelina, supposed to be the second of the three daughters, and co-heiresses of John de Musters, Lord of Basingham, in Lincolnshire, by which means part of that lordship came to the family of Staunton, by whom he had two sons, viz. Galfridus, his heir, who was knighted; and Hervey de Staunton, chief justice of the common pleas, and chancellor of the exchequer to Edward II.

Sir Galfridus, (living 1257) married Alice ———, by whom he had a daughter Margaret; wife of Theobald de Trickingham; and three sons, viz. William; Robert, rector of Staunton; and John, who was knighted, and settled in Devonshire, where he married and had a son, John. Sir Galfridus, with the consent of his wife, settled the whole manor of Scredington, in Lincolnshire, on William, their eldest son, and the

heirs of his body, which they had of the gift of Thomas Amys, and Christina, his wife; for which the said William de Staunton was to do the service for a knight's fee and a half, to his said father and mother, and if he should have no issue, it was to go to the heirs of their bodies.

William de Staunton, knight, who succeeded his father Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, knight, gave to Sir Theobald de Trickingham, knight, in free marriage with Margaret, his sister, and to their issue, his rents in Starthorpe, and Silkeby, and certain homages, reliefs, and services, which his grandchild, Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, by his attorney, John de Staunton, 8th of Edw. III. at York claimed against John Asseballocks, of Newark, because Sir Theobald and his Lady had no issue.

Sir William de Staunton married Isabella, sister of Ralph de Kirketon, knight, from whom he received all his lands, rents, and services, in Kilvington and Wilberdeston, together with the right of patronage of the church of Kilvington. He was a man much engaged in the military and political transactions of the times in which he lived: and was a great favorite with king Edward I. who took him under his protection, and he accompanied that monarch to France in his visits to his states of Guienne and Anjou, in 1286, and again to Flanders, 1298, to assist the Flemmingers. He made his will the 9th of November, 1312, wherein he gave his body to be buried in the church-yard of St. Mary of Staunton, with which he bequeathed his palfery with his furniture; and died in 1326.

William de Staunton, his eldest son, married Joan ————, by whom he had four sons and two daughters, viz. Sir Geoffrey, his heir: John; Simon; Thomas; Isabella; and Margaret. He died in 1341, and was succeeded by,

Sir Geoffrey de Staunton, who was sheriff of Nottingham and Derby in the time of Edward III. and married Joane, the daughter of Sir John de Loudham, knight, by whom he had four sons and three daughters, viz. first, Sir William, his heir; second, Sir Thomas de Staunton; third, Ralph; fourth, James; fifth, Isabella; sixth, Alicia; seventh, Elizabeth. Sir Geoffrey dying in 1366, was succeeded by his eldest son,

William de Staunton, knight, who was twice married, first, to Katherine ————, and secondly, to Elizabeth, daughter of Brian Thornhill, and relict of Henry Musters, by whom he had an only child, Elizabeth, wife of William Hamstrelly, and died seized of a certain manor in Eyleston, about the 15th of Richard II. called Stonhall fee, with sixteen oxgangs of land, held of Sir John Bussey, lord of Hogham.

Sir Thomas de Staunton, Sir Geoffrey's second son, succeeded his brother, William, and had a wife called Alice, who survived him, by whom he had no issue; so that the manor of Staunton came to Ralph, the third son; who married Helen ————, by whom he had no issue: he married, secondly, Constantia, the daughter of Agnes de Sutton; and died in 1408, leaving by his second wife several children, viz. Elizabeth, Alicia, Thomas, William, and Agnes.

Thomas de Staunton, esq. his eldest son and successor, married about the year 1404, Margaret, the daughter of Thomas Mapurley. He married, secondly, 2nd of Henry VI. Elizabeth ————; and thirdly, 10th of Henry VI. Joane ————. By one of these he had a son, Thomas; and a daughter, Margaret, who in the 36th of Henry VI. was the second wife of John Barrett, of Horbling, in Lincolnshire.

Thomas de Staunton, the only son, married Elizabeth, supposed to be the daughter of —— Sleford; and left issue, five sons, on whom the estate was entailed, viz. first, William; he married Catherine Disney, but dying without issue, on the 4th of March, 1500, the manor went to his next surviving brother; second, George, who possessed the manor after his brother.—He married ——, daughter to ——, by whom he had a daughter, married to —— Brookesby, esq. but dying without male issue, the manor appears to have been next possessed by a younger brother; third, John, ancestor of the present family; fourth, Thomas, who was the next possessor of the manor; fifth, another William, said to have been lord and parson of this place; but we are of opinion that this is an error, arising from the eldest son being lay-impropriator; and that there were no more than four sons. He had also a daughter, Alicia, wife of John Thorold, of Marston, in the county of Lincoln, esq.

We now proceed with John, the third son, who left a son, Edward Staunton, who settled at Woburn, in Bedfordshire. His father, John, having died before his uncle, George, he appears to have been the true heir to the manor of Staunton; which however was

possessed by Thomas, third son of Thomas and Elizabeth, but for what reason we are unable to determine. Becoming proprietor of part of the abbey lands of Woburn, after the dissolution, he received a further grant from Edward VI. of the manor of Smewens-grange, in the parish of Great Brickhill, in Buckinghamshire, which had been the property of Woburn Abbey from the year 1293*. He had a son and successor,

Edmund Staunton, of Smewens-grange, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Reginald Bray, second brother of Edmond Lord Bray, and had issue Reginald, his successor, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne.

Reginald Staunton, of Smewens before mentioned, esq. living in 1633, married Elizabeth, daughter of Anthony Shuckburgh, of Shuckburgh, esq. by whom he had four sons and three daughters, viz. first Anthony, his heir†; second, George, of whom hereafter; third,

* This manor passed through the hands of this branch of the family (of whom was Sir Francis Staunton, sheriff of the county of Bedford, and died in 1635, and lies buried in Woburn church) till the year 1792, when (under an Act of Parliament, which had passed the preceding year) it was purchased by the present proprietor, Edward Hanmer, of Stockgrove, esq.

† Anthony Staunton, of Great Brickhill, in the county of Bucks, esq. the eldest son living in 1634, married Anne, eldest daughter and coheiress (with her sister Nightingale, wife of Edward Mansell, of Haversham, in the same county) of Edward Fortho, of Fortho, in Northamptonshire, esq. the descendant of a very ancient and respectable family in that county: by whom he had, first, Anthony, his heir; second, Sandys, who died without issue; Reginald, who died unmarried; and three daughters, viz. Anne, Elizabeth, and Susan. Anthony Staunton, clerk, the eldest surviving son, left an only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, who married James Stokes, esq. and they conveyed their estate to their cousin, John Staunton, hereafter mentioned, in 1717.

John; and fourth, Edmond; the daughters were Frances, wife of Richard Saunders, esq.; Mary, wife of William, son of Sir Francis Staunton; and Elizabeth, wife, first of Robert Browne, esq. and secondly, of Ralph Hough, of London, esq.

George Staunton, esq. second son of Reginald Staunton, of Smewens, was an ensign in Sir Thomas Rothevant's company of foot, and went to Ireland in 1634, and settled in the county of Galway, and became possessed of considerable landed property in that quarter; he married Eleanor, daughter of —— Lynch, of that county, by whom he had two sons, Thomas* and George.

* Thomas Staunton, of Galway, esq. eldest son, married Deborah, daughter of —— Morgan, of Kilcoglan, esq. by whom he had two sons, first, John, his heir; and second, Thomas, who was master in chancery, recorder, and member of parliament for Galway. He left an only daughter, Deborah (to this lady it was that Dean Swift wrote that incomparable letter, for the conduct of her life in the marriage state, printed among his Miscellaneous Works), wife of John Rochfort, of Clonghgrenan, in the county of Carlow, and of Newpark, in the county of Dublin, esq. ancestor to the Earl of Belvidere; by whom she had two sons and two daughters, viz. Robert, educated in the university of Dublin, and died at Bishops-hall, the 16th of February, 1755, unmarried; John, baptized the 25th of July, 1735, and married in February, 1759, to Dorothea, daughter of Thomas Burgh, of Bearth, esq. and had issue; Mary, married in October, 1767, to Thomas, eldest son of Thomas Maunsell, esq. counsellor at law; and Deborah, baptized the 28th September, 1736, and married, first, the 19th of January, 1754, to George Bishop, of Bishops-hall, in the county of Kilkenny, esq. who died in March, 1764; and, secondly, to Philip Rochfort, son of her uncle Arthur.

John Staunton, of Oldbury, in the county of Galway, esq. and one of the representatives for Galway, married Bridget, daughter of Edward Donnellan, of Bally Donellan, esq. by whom he had two sons; John, of the Middle Temple, barrister at law, who died unmarried; and Thomas; and two daughters; Anne, wife of Barnaby Gunning, of Hollywell, in

George Staunton, of Cargin, esq. second son of ensign George Staunton, by Eleanor Lynch, married Elizabeth, daughter of —— Martin of Tullyra, in the county of Galway, esq. by whom he had two sons; first, James, barrister at law; married 6th of June, 1752, Harriet, seventh daughter of Patrick Wemys, esq. and had female issue*; and, second, George.

George Staunton, esq. second son, on whom his father settled the castle, town, and lands of Cargin, married Ann, daughter of Nicholas Lynch, of Galway, by whom he had five sons, viz. first, George, hereafter mentioned; second, Arthur, who died unmarried; third, Thomas, who likewise died unmarried; fourth, John, who married, but left no issue; fifth, Nicholas, married, and left a son; and two daughters, Deborah, wife of —— Branden, Esq. and Anne: He died in 1733, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

the county of Roscommon, esq.; and Deborah. He died in 1733, and was succeeded by his only surviving son,

Thomas Staunton, of Stockgrove, in Buckinghamshire, and of Holbrook, in Suffolk, who also represented the town of Galway; and in the English parliament that of Ipswich, in Suffolk; he married, first, Jane, daughter of Henry Vane, Earl of Darlington, by whom he had a son, John, who died unmarried; and a daughter, Bettenson: he married, secondly, Catherine, daughter of Thomas Thurston, esq. and relict of William Peck, esq. of Samford Hall, in the county of Essex; by whom he had Thomas, his heir; and Elizabeth Catherine, married in 1785, to James Cumberland Bentley, esq. He died the 1st of October, 1784.— His only son, Thomas Staunton, who was an officer in the 13th regiment of foot, died before his father, leaving issue by his wife, Mary Tinling, two daughters, Mary and Margaret.

* First, Catherine, married to Walter Lambert, esq of Cregclare, in the county of Galway, and has issue, two sons and three daughters:— secondly, ——— married to —— Kirwan, esq of the county of Galway, since dead, leaving issue. *Note of the Editor.*

George Staunton, of Cargin, in the county of Galway, esq. who married Margaret, daughter of John Leonard, esq. of Carra, in the same county, esq. by whom, who died the 1st of October, 1784, he had George Leonard, his heir, born 19th of April, 1737, and two daughters, viz. Margaret, wife of Richard Blake, esq. of Galway, and Lucy Barbara, wife of Richard Wolseley Cormick, of the island of Grenada, in the West Indies, esq.— He died the 3rd of May, 1780, aged 80 years, and was succeeded by his only son,

George Leonard Staunton, on whom the honor of Baronet was first conferred. He married the 22nd of July, 1771, Jane, daughter of Benjamin Collins, of Milford, near Salisbury, in the county of Wilts, esq. and also an eminent banker in that city; by whom he had two sons and one daughter, viz. George, born in August, 1775, and died an infant; Margaret born the 24th September, 1772, and also died in her infancy; and George Thomas, born the 26th of May, 1781, the present inheritor. Sir George died in London, the 14th of January, 1801, in the 64th year of his age; and was succeeded by his only surviving son, George Thomas, the present Baronet*. p. 313—342.

* A further extract from this work (which appears to have been carefully compiled from the best authorities) has been introduced in the Memoir, p. 33. *Note of the Editor.*

XX.

A GENEALOGY

OF

The Staunton Family, of Staunton,

IN THE COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM,

FROM AUTHENTIC PAPERS IN POSSESSION OF THE FAMILY;

COMMUNICATED BY

DR. STAUNTON, OF STAUNTON HALL, IN 1822.

Saxons.

A. D. 1066 Sir Mauger Staunton, knight, resided at Staunton, in 1066. He defended Belvoir Castle against William I. Duke of Normandy, (generally stiled William the Conqueror) and there made his composition or contract for his lands, and had the strongest fortress therein, ever since called by his name "Staunton Tower;" and had his arms in chief before the arms of the lords of that castle, whose title from a Norman family were styled lord's D'Aubeney. "In 1655, when the castle was ruined by the late civil wars, and demolished so much that it was forced to be taken down and rebuilt, by the most noble Countess of Rutland, mother of the late duke (of the family of Montague of Boughton) who, as I have heard my grandmother Staunton say, did restore the arms into the old place again. And what I here insert in relation to the family, is what I have from old manu-

scripts of the eminent Dr. Thoroton, in his collections from Antiquities." *Orig. Ms.*

The tenure that they held the manor of Staunton was derived from that castle, commonly called castle guard land, and during the courts of wards, the wardships of the Stauntons belonged to the lords thereof, which by tradition much impaired and lessened their possessions.

A. D. 1129 H. 1. To this Mauger succeeded Mauger the 2nd, who was also knighted, and married to Beatrix, dr. to the lord D'Aubeney, of Belvoir castle, which two knights had their monuments in Staunton church, well cut in stone, in armour, and cross legged, but when Dr. Juxton was rector, in the year 1629, he caused them to be demolished (he being a puritan) and paved the streets with them.

A. D. 1225 18 H 3. To this Mauger succeeded his eldest son, Sir William Staunton, knight, and was buried in St. Lawrence's quire, in the north isle of Staunton church, with a Latin inscription on his tomb.

Sir William Staunton the 2nd of that name, succeeded his father Sir William—he married 1260 Athlin, co-heiress to Sir John de Musters of Bassingham. He died Oct. 26, 1260—and left two sons, Geoffrey and Harvey.

A. D. 1268 52 H 3. Sir Geoffrey succeeded his father Sir William, and married Alice, daughter of Lord Roos;—He had four sons, William, Richard, Robert, and John—and one daughter, Margaret.

1324 Sir Harvey Staunton, the 2nd son of Sir William, was Baron of the Exchequer—He founded
18 E 2. St. Michael's hall in Cambridge, and endowed it with £1,600 ℔ annum, which by king Henry VIII. was incorporated with Trinity College.—He had no issue, neither is the place of his interment known, nor that of his brother, Sir Geoffrey.

Sir William Staunton, 3rd of that name, eldest son of Sir Geoffrey, and nephew of Sir Harvey, married Isabella, sister to Sir Ralph Werton (now Chaworth) he died in May 1326. He had one son, William.

Robert and John, Sir Geoffrey's 3rd and 4th sons, were both rectors of Staunton.

Robert died in May, 1329.

No mention when John died.

There are tombs in Staunton church, with inscriptions of the above William, Robert, and John.

No account of Richard, Sir Geoffrey's 2nd son.

Margarett, the daughter of Sir Geoffrey, married Sir Theobald Trickingham, alias Freckingham, co. Lincoln.

1341 Sir William Staunton, the 4th of that name,
15 E 3. and son of Sir William the 3rd, married Joan, by whom he had four sons, Geoffrey, John, Simon, and Thomas. He died 1341.

Sir Geoffrey succeeded his father, Sir William, and was the second of that name; he

married Joan, daughter of Sir John Loudham, by whom he had five children, William, Thomas, Ralph, John, and one daughter, Alice—who married Stephen Maulowell, or Maulovell, esq. lord of the manor of Rampton, c. Notts. Sir Geoffrey died Oct. 16, 1369. He was seized of the lordships of Staunton, Flawborough, Alverton, Kilvington, with lands in Bassingham, Quarington, Elston, Scarrington, also lands in Newark, Loughboro, with others in Leicestershire and Derbyshire. He had been high sheriff, and was justice of the peace. Joan, his wife, died 31st July, 1366, and was buried with her husband in the north side of St. Lawrence's quire, in Staunton church, with an inscription on her tomb, in old French.

John, the 2nd son of Sir William, married an heiress in Devonshire, had issue, John, who in those turbulent military times, was, for his valour, knighted about the 5th Hen. IV. 1409.

There was a church built by the above Sir John Staunton, at a village bearing the name of Staunton, in Pembrokeshire, and dedicated to St. John, 1416. It is reported Sir John landed here, after being delivered from a storm at sea, which caused him to build the church.

Ed. 3. 1346 Simon, Sir William's 3d son, was rector of Staunton. He built the parsonage from the ground; and died in Sept. 1346: with an inscription on his tomb in Staunton church.

1371 Sir William, (the 5th of that name) eldest son of Sir Geoffrey, married twice; the first wife was Katherine ———, by whom he had no issue. His 2nd wife was Elizabeth, dr. of Sir Brian Thornhill, by whom he had one daughter, named Elizabeth, who married William Hamsterley, esq. and gave with her his manor of Elston—He died Aug. 1371, and is buried in Staunton church.

Sir Thomas Staunton, brother to Sir William, and 2nd son of Sir Geoffrey by Lady Joan de Lowdham, succeeded his brother Sir William in the estate. He married Alice, but had no issue; was buried in the church-yard at Staunton, on the south side of the said church—He
R. II. was justice of peace in king Richard II. reign.—
1379 He died in 1418.

His Lady Alice is buried in Stoke church, near Newark upon Trent—died 19th Nov. 1418.

H. 5. Ralph Staunton, 3d son of Sir Geoffrey, (and
1421 brother of Sir Thomas) was the next heir by succession. He had two wives—Hellena—and Constantia, who was a dr. of —— Sutton, esq. whose posterity are now lords Lexington—he had two sons, Thomas and William, and was interred at Quarrington*, in the county of Lincoln, but there is no inscription to be found of him in that place.

* No place of this name to be found in Lincolnshire; must, therefore, be a mistake: there is Quarington, near Durham.

H. 6. Thomas Staunton, the eldest son of Ralph,
1426 had three wives, Margaret, Joan, and Elizabeth —he had two children, Thomas, and Margaret, who married John Barrett, of Horbling, in the county of Lincoln, esq. The above Thomas was buried in St. Lawrence's quire, in Staunton church. He died in April, 1446.

Thomas Staunton succeeded his father Thomas, and married Elizabeth ——, by whom he had five sons; William, George, William, Thomas, and John; and one daughter, Alice.—The above Thomas Staunton was interred near the font, on the north side of Staunton church, with an inscription on his tomb stone. He
Ed. 4. died in August, 1482.

1475 William Staunton, the eldest son of Thomas, married Katharine Dysney, but had no issue, they were both interred in Bassingham church, in the county of Lincoln. He died in his father's life time.

George Staunton, the second son of Thomas, married and had one daughter, who married —— Brooksby of Melton, in the countyof Lei-
H. 7. cester, esq. He was buried March 4th, 1498.

William Staunton, 3rd son of Thomas Staunton and Elizabeth, was both lord of the manor and rector of Staunton, he died a single man (the clergy not then being allowed to marry) he was buried in the chancel.

Thomas Staunton, 4th son of Thomas and Elizabeth, he was well read in the laws. He married Anne ——, and had issue, Anthony and

John,—was interred in the north isle of Staunton church, with an inscription on his stone,
H 8. he died January, 1517.

Alice Staunton, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth, and sister to the four brothers above mentioned, was married to John Thorold, of
H. 7. Marston, in the county of Lincoln, esq. and is
1500 interred with her husband in Marston church.

H. 8. Anthony Staunton, esq. eldest son of Thomas,
1518 married Syth the daughter of Robert Nevell, of Ragnall in the county of Nottingham, esq.—this Anthony, by Syth, had eleven children, viz. Richard, Robert, John, William, Elizabeth, Anne, Ellen, Bridgett, Katharine, Syth.—Richard and John had no issue; Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, married Roger North, of Walkinghan, in the county of Lincoln, esq. after whose decease she had two husbands, Hugh Thornhill, and Arthur Walpoole, esq. Ann married herself but indifferently to William Snow; Hellen, married to William Wilde, of Nettleworth, in the county of Nottingham, esq. after to —— Cotes; Bridgett married to Jerome Brand, esq. Katherine, married William Marshall, esq. and Syth died unmarried.

Queen Anthony built the stone star chimney and
Mary window, on the north side the hall. He died
1554 7th Feb. 1560.

Syth, his wife, died 21st Jan. 1569. And both buried in Staunton church, with inscriptions on their tombs.

A. D 1561 Q. Eliz. Robert Staunton succeeded Anthony, he married Bridget, the daughter and coheiress of Gabriel Bearwick, of Bulcote, in the county of Nottingham, esq.—they had one son, William; and four daughters—Elizabeth, Anne, Mary, and Gertrude, who died before their father, and unmarried—He left only William, his son, with very large and clear possessions, Staunton, Kilvington, Alverton, Flawborough, Dallington, &c.—all entirely his own without debts (notwithstanding Cade's rhymes say otherwise).

This Robert Staunton ought to be held in memory and esteem by his posterity: he was certainly a wise and good man. True to his God, his king, and his country. He died the 19th of June 1582, and was buried at the upper end of the church, by the steeple door, with an inscription and arms on his grave stone.

1582 William, only son of Robert Staunton, succeeded his father—being a minor, he fell ward to Edward, then Earl of Rutland—He married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Disney, of Norton Disney, in the county of Lincoln, esq.—He had ten children, three only survived him—Anthony, Thomas, and John. Thomas and John died unmarried. He died September 28, 1602, in the 39th year of his age.

1602 Anthony, eldest son of William Staunton, being a minor, fell ward to Roger, then Earl of Rutland. He died at York, in 1613, in the 27th

year of his age.—He married Frances, the daughter of——Palmer, of Southwell, in the county of Nottingham, esq. and left issue, two sons, William and John.—John died in his minority.

1613 William succeeded his father, Anthony Staunton: he was born at York; being a minor at his father's death, he fell ward to Francis, then Earl of Rutland. His wardship was redeemed by his uncle Palmer, from the aforesaid Earl, for 200 marks (a great sum in those days) and 100 marks more in case his grandmother died during his minority. This shews the great hardship those courts of wards and liveries were to landed orphans, which was happily redressed at the restoration of King

1630 Charles II. (1660) This William Staunton married Anne, the daughter of Edmund Waring, of the Lea, near Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, esq. May the 5th 1630, by whom he had six sons and seven daughters, six of whom died in their infancy; the other seven, Major, Harvey, Ralph, Mary, Anne, Catharine, and Elizabeth, all married and had issue (except Major and Ralph, who died unmarried, and Elizabeth had no children). Mary married William Sacheverell, of Morley, in the county of Derby, and also of Barton, in the county of Nottingham, esq. and had a numerous issue, whereof only three lived to be

married; Robert, who inherited his father's estate, Elizabeth, and Joyce. Anne married Peter Broughton, of Loudham, in the county of Nottingham, esq. she had issue, Peter, whose son Peter inherited the estate at Loudham. Catharine married John Holbrook, rector of Edgmond, in the county of Salop.

1642 This William Staunton was a royalist, or, as it was phrased in those times, a cavalier.—When that unhappy prince, King Charles I. set up his royal standard, at Nottingham, he attended him there, from thence he attended his majesty to Shrewsbury, and to the battle of Edge Hill, in Warwickshire.—The King gave him a colonel's commission; he raised a regiment of foot, and provided for them at his own expence, and which, together with sequestration and composition money, lessened and ruined his estate, without receiving any return, which was the occasion of great distress to his family. He died March 1st, 1656, in the 48th year of his age.

1656 Major, the eldest son of William Staunton, succeeded to his father's broken estate, and died in 1660, in the 28th year of his age.

1660 Harvey, the second son of William Staunton, succeeded his brother Major, to his narrow estate and fortune—he married Anne, sole heiress of George Cam, of Tuxford, in the county of Nottingham, esq. He had two sons and six daughters; the two sons, and two

daughters died in their infancy—his four daughters that survived him, were Anne, Mary, Elizabeth, and Jane. Anne married Gilbert, the second son of Sir Job Charlton, of Ludford, in the county of Hereford, Knight and Baronet, they had two sons and two daughters, Job Staunton, Gilbert, Emma, and Anne.—Mary married Michael Brandreth, of Shenston, in the county of Stafford, esq. 31st May, 1692. Elizabeth married Robert Sacheverell (her cousin German) of Barton in the county of Nottingham, esq. and Jane married Simon Degge, of Derby, esq.

Harvey Staunton died February 23rd, 1688-9, in the 48th year of his age. He lived beloved,
1688 and died lamented.

He was the last heir male of his family after a continued succession, from one generation to another, for 622 years. The manor and estate at Staunton was left by him to his eldest daughter Anne, married to Gilbert Charlton, esq. who died 16th July, 1706.

Anne, the relict of Gilbert Charlton, died
1732 May 29th, 1732, and was succeeded by her eldest son, Job Staunton; he married Mary, the youngest daughter of Dr. Greenwood, M. D. of Northampton, and had issue, four daughters, Anne, Emma, Mary, and Elizabeth—who all died unmarried.

Gilbert, the second son of Gilbert and Anne Charlton, was rector of Staunton—He married

the widow of —— Hall, esq. They had two daughters, who died in their infancy.

Emma, the daughter of Gilbert and Anne Charlton, married George Loddington, of Bracebridge, in the county of Lincoln, esq.

Anne married Richard Brough, of Thoroton, in the county of Nottingham, esq. and left issue four sons, George Staunton, Richard, Job, and Francis. Richard and Francis were in the army and navy, and died abroad.

George Staunton Brough was rector of Staunton, and Wollaton, in the county of Nottingham.

Job was in the profession of the law, and married Elizabeth, the daughter of John Clough, of Newark-upon-Trent, esq. and had issue, two sons and two daughters—Job, Francis, Emma, and Elizabeth. Job and Francis died unmarried.

Emma married the Rev. Charles Fynes, LL.D. rector of Cromwell, in the county of Nottingham, and prebendary of Westminster.

1793 Elizabeth married the Rev. I. Ashpinshaw, LL. D. rector of St. Peter's, in Nottingham, and vicar of Hinchley, in the county of Leicester, afterwards rector of Elton super Montem, and of Kilvington, in the county of Nottingham.—They have issue (now living) one son and two daughters—William Job Charlton, Elizabeth Katharine, and Mary Anne.

Anne, the eldest daughter of Job Staunton Charlton, (who died in April, 1807) survived her three sisters many years.—She left, by her

last will and testament, her estate at Staunton, and other manors, to her cousin, Elizabeth, the wife of the above Dr. Ashpinshaw, directing that they, and their issue, should take the name, and bear the arms, of Staunton only; which they obtained, by his Majesty's sign manual, in the year 1807, and directed to be registered in the College of Arms, which were duly entered.

There is an ancient custom, when any of the royal family honor Belvoir Castle with their presence, for the chief of the Staunton family personally to appear, and present the key of the strong hold of the Castle to such distinguished personage. This ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Staunton, by virtue of his tenure, with an appropriate speech, to the Prince Regent, when his Royal Highness honored the Duke and Duchess of Rutland with his presence, at the christening of the Marquis of Granby, January, 1814.

The chief strong hold of Belvoir Castle, is an outwork of defence, called *Staunton Tower*, the command of which is held by the family of the Stauntons, by tenure of castle guard, and by which they were anciently required to appear with soldiers for the defence of that strong post, in case of danger, or, if required, to be called upon by the lord of the castle.

With regard to the statement of the founder of St. Michael's Hall, at Cambridge, living in Suffolk—part of the family might have gone into Suffolk, (see preceding account, A. D. 1324) but I am satisfied, from the account on record, that the founder was nevertheless of this family.

Mrs. Staunton has a seal, given by Trinity College to the family, which the late Mrs. Charlton wore upon all *high days*, and said, " it was an omen of good luck, and that she was sure to be lucky when she wore that ring."

The entry at Trinity College mentions the name of " Aunger," but it is very probable to be meant for Maunger, or Mauger, which is an old family name here.

Besides all this I should add, that this family had property in Yorkshire, held under lease of Trinity College (and which Mrs. Staunton and I sold a few years ago, by the direction of Mrs. Charlton's will).— This is a strong presumption, that this family were very intimately connected with the College.

I should hope therefore, that a little further enquiry may elucidate and clear up the difficulty.

JOHN STAUNTON.

Extract from the Petition of Anne Staunton, widow, to King Charles II. in her own hand writing.

Your Majesty's poor petitioner humbly sheweth, that she was the only wife of William Staunton, of Staunton, in the county of Nottingham, esq. whose noble ancestors weare renowned for fidelity to their prince, and love to their country. When your royal father, of blessed memory, came into the northern countries, to see what appearance the nobility and gentry of the several counties would for contribution for horses and arms, he freely sent *above* his proportion

by estate to others; and when the royal standard was pitched at Nottingham Castle, Sept. 1642, to shew his loyalty, and excite others to advance for his Majesty's defence, he accompanied, with a gentleman, his menials, and tenant's sonns (which he armed) He trailed a pike in — ——— ——— regiment, was there in the battel of Edge Hill, and Bramfourd, and left not his Sovron, til he was safely sate doune in the garison of Oxfourd: then his desire to promote the said services, returned him back to his country, whear, upon the King's taking the military, the rebells begann to garrison Notting. and the Lord of Newcastle sent Sir John Hinderson to garrison Newark, and he joined in the regiment of Col. Sir John Digbey, thear to raise foote. When t'was known to Lord Withrington, that by the love of his country he was more powerfull to raise men than others, who had not shewed themselves so active in the service, he sent him the Marquess of Newcastle's commissions for a regiment of foot and a troop of horse, which he raised fourthwith, at his proper cost, and armed and accoutered: the greatest part of them, the horse, served with Col. Aire, wch wear for the service of the same garison. His foot regiment kept the toune and garison of Newark, in all assalts and beleaguers.

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XXI.

GENEALOGY

OF THE

Stauntons of Longbridge, in Warwickshire,

COMMUNICATED

BY WILLIAM STAUNTON, ESQ. OF LONGBRIDGE.

The following Genealogy is compiled from the original papers of the Visitation of the County of Warwick, taken A. D. 1619, amongst the Harl. Mss. No. 1195, in the British Museum. Also, Nos. 1100 and 1167—And Register Vincent, No. 126, fol. 270, in the College of Arms.

The connexion of the Stauntons of Longbridge and Wolverton, with the Stauntons of Staunton, in Nottinghamshire, is particularly stated in Dugdale's Warwickshire, 2d edt. vol. ii. p. 665.

The settlement of the Longbridge branch in Warwickshire, as far back as the year 1461, 39th Hen. VI. is proved by an original deed of that date, in the hands of the present inheritor, of which an extract is subjoined.

The Wolverton family, which is the younger branch of the Stauntons of Warwickshire, was settled at Wolverton, by the purchase of an estate there in the 18th of Eliz. by Thomas Staunton, described in the Parish Register as "an ancient captaine in the Irish Wars." It became extinct in the last century.

* Ex Cartâ antiquâ penes Gul. Staunton, Arm. de Longbridge, 1821.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos hoc presens scriptum pervenerit, Rogerus Mordyk de Stretford super Avenam in com. Warr. Corvyser, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noveritis me prefatum Rogerum, per hoc presens scriptum meum, remisisse, relaxasse, ac omnino pro me et heredibus meis imperpetuum quietum clamasse, Thome Staunton de Longgebrugge, et Margerie Uxori sue et heredibus et Assignatis suis, totum Ius meum, &c. in villis et in campis de Longgebrugge, Hampton Curley, et Shirburne, &c. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti scripto meo sigillum meum apposui. Dat. die Mercurii proximo post festum Sancti Michaelis, Anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum tricesimo nono. Hiis testibus, Johanne Huggeford Armigero, Henrico Somerlone, et Henrico Laudeseale, tunc Ballivis ville Warw. Ricardo Laurence de Shirburne, Willielmo Willot de Stratford, et multis aliis.

† Ex Regesterio Fratrum et Sororum Gilde Sancte Anne de Knolle, com. Warw. penes Gul. Hamper, Arm. de Birmingham.

9th Hen. VII.

Johannes Staunton et Matilda, ux. ej. de Longbrige.

LONGBRIDGE GENEALOGY, COMMUNICATED BY WILLIAM STAUNTON, ESQ. OF LONGBRIDGE. 1821.

Thomas Staunton de Longbridge, mentioned in an original Deed of 1461*. — **Margeria**

Johannes Staunton de Longbridge, 1493: mentioned in the original guild book, or register of Knolle, com. War†. — **Matilda**

Thomas Staunton de Longbridge, in c. War. v. Coll. Arm.

John Staunton of Longbridge — **Elizabeth**, d. of Townesend de Wallia

Thomas Staunton first son, of Longbridge. His will proved in 1610. — **Alice** — **Margaret** o. s. p. — **Thomas** of Woolverton, c. War. 2d son. — **Mary**, 1st d. of Geo. Pudsey, de Langley-hall, in c. War. — **Elizabeth** w. of Simon Moy, of Stoke in c. War — **Richard** of Roxsall, in c. War. 3d son. — **Isabell** d. of —— Ludford, in c. War.

Had issue. — Had issue.

Humphrey Staunton of Longbridge. His will proved in 1616. — **Joane**

John Staunton of Longbridge. Buried at St. Mary's, Warwick, 1652. — **Elizabeth** — **Anne** — **Mary** — **Judith** — **Katherine** — **Joane**, w. of William Perkins, of Marston Jabet, in c. War.

John Staunton of Longbridge, buried at St. Mary's, Warwick, 1673. — **Elizabeth**, 3d d. of Sir Edw. Master, of East Landon, in East Kent, buried at St. Mary's, Warwick, 1699-1700. — **Stepheu** 2nd son, had issue. — **Thomas** 3d son, bad issue. — **Charles** 4th son.

John Staunton of Longbridge. Bapt. 13th March, 1656-7. bur. at St. Mary's, War. 1705. — **Elizabeth**, only d. of Sam. Smallbrooke, of Rowington, com. War. sister to the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. — **Martha** bapt. Apr. 17, 1656 — **Edward** bapt. Nov. 3, 1658. — **Audery** — **Charles** bapt July, 1660. — **Stephen** bapt. Nov. 1661. — **Lettice** bapt Dec 1664

John Staunton of Longbridge, bapt. 18th April, 1704 He became possessed of the estate at Wolverton by the extinction of that branch of the family, in the male line — **Elizabeth**, daughter of William Grove, esq. of Coventry.

John Staunton of Longbridge, bapt. 29th Oct. 1735 Heir to his brother. ob. 16th Feb. 1811. — **Anna Maria**, 1st d. of Edmund Crynes, M. D. of Nottingham Postcà of Keuilworth, in War. First wife. — **Anne**, 1st d. of Edward Inge, esq. of Stonigate, Leicester. and the Charter-house, War. Second wife. — **Hannah** bapt 27th Jan. 1738, ob. celebs. 8th July, 1813.

William Staunton of Longbridge, Ll. B born 4th Aug. 1765. — **Elizabeth**, 1st d. of Osborne Standert, esq. of Londou. — **Elizabetha Maria** b. 30th April, 1767. ob. 31st Dec. 1767. — **John Grove Staunton**, A. M. b. 21 Dec. 1768. Clericus. — **Thomas** b 12th Dec. 1771, ob. 6th Jan. 1772. — **Anna Maria** b. 11th Aug. 1775, wife of T. Hallifax, esq. of London. Has issue. — **Edmund A M** b 24 Aug. 1778 Clericus.

John — William — Thomas — George — Elizabeth — Edward — Caroline — Hervey ob. infans.

Barnaby ..... issue. — **Elizabeth** w. of Edward Badger, had issue. — **Judith** w. of Hamnet Sadler, had issue. — **Margaret** w. of Thomas Masters, had issue.

Lettice Humphrey Greswolde, esq. ..reet, in Worcestersbire. — **Abigail** w. of James Hales, of Foleshill, near Coventry. — **Humphrey** died young.

Elizabeth wife of David Haywood. Bapt. 12th July, 1654.

Elizabeth bapt. 11th Dec. 1700.

Elizabeth ..iam ..gbridge, ..Mar. 1730. ..celebs, 795. — bapt. 12th July, 1732. w. of John Heylin, esq. of Bristol, and Thos. Rothley, esq. of Bristol. 2nd husband. — **Mary** bapt. 8th March, 1733. w. of Sam. Trotman, esq. of Bucknell, Oxfordshire. o. s. p.

John Crynes Staunton, born 28th March, 1763, buried 10th Aug. 1766.

XXII.

EXTRACT

FROM

Peck's Siege of Belvoir.

And here the crazy walls no longer kept
The brave remaining loyalists secure,
Who shew'd indeed what courage could endure,
Till, to a few reduc'd, they all embow'r,
In their last, safest refuge, STAUNTON tow'r;
For yet that stronger place of shelter left,
Which could not ev'n by hottest balls be cleft;
Its thick, impenetrable coat defy'd
All force, and entrance to all rage deny'd.
Balls thereat shot, with violent rebound
Flew from its side, and bounc'd to lower ground.
Stark mad the enemy fresh councils call
And finding now the firmness of that wall,
Resolve, though all the rest was but a heap
Of ruins (far from being purchas'd cheap)
By outward force that part could ne'er be took,
And therefore shooting should be thence forsook;
Now inward fraud, or nothing, must supply,
(Ah, what is strong enough for treachery!)
What otherwise were labour all in vain,
And here corruption, of all forts the bane,
Unto their aid step'd in; the tow'r was took.

XXIII.

Epitaph

ON THE LATE

SIR GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON, Bart.

By John Christian Hüttner, esq.

Haud procul hinc jacet Georgius Leonardus Staunton, natus Cargini, in agro Gallivensi Hibernorum, patre armigero, e pervetusta et illustri stirpe Anglica oriundo, Eques Baronettus, qui, postquam Ebolani in Collegio civitatis celeberrimo animum disciplinis liberalibus excoluerat, valetudinis infirmæ caussa, Montem Pessulanum in Gallia migravit, operam navaturus arti medicæ, in qua ita profecit ut eam in Insula Grenada summa cum laude profiteretur. Ibidem quum operæ pretium facturus videretur, ad legum Angliæ studium, antehac intactum, tam sedulo sese applicuit, ut munere Regiarum caussarum Procuratoris fungi posset. Nam inextincti discendi ardoris per totam vitam exemplar perillustre omnes liberalium artium disciplinas avidissime arripuit: et quum non solum amicitiarum tenax et veri studiosissimus, sed

etiam integritate singulari, animi firmitate inconcussa, et mira erga omnes humanitate esset, Macartneium, popularem suum, Insulæ præfectum, ita sibi devinxit, ut ei deinceps semper carissimus esset. Insula a Gallis expugnata, subito de conjugis optimæ, Joannae Collinsiae, argentarii honestissimi Sarisburiensis, filiae, complexu, avulsus, fortunis omnibus exutus, et Lutetiam Parisiorum absportatus, pacis, inter Magnam Britanniam et Galliam, paullo post confectæ, fundamenta jecit. Paucis annis interjectis, cum eodem Macartneio, præside Madrassii, Indias petiit Orientales, ut ei a secretis esset: ibi amicum non modo consiliis unice juvit, sed etiam discrimine maximo, in quod ille a præfecto militum Anglicorum adducebatur, imperterrita et pœne incredibili fortitudine animi, proditore in mediis castris capto, indeque abducto, liberavit; nec, legatus pacificatum missus cum aliis, minori animo et vitæ periculo, conditionibus foedis, quas reliqui Oratores, metu impulsi, parum abfuit quin acciperent, impavide spretis, pacem cum Tippone, Mysuriæ Tyranno, feliciter pepigit, anno 1784.

His erga patriam meritis, redux in Angliam, priscum stirpis splendorem novis titulis auxit, ab Augustissimo Rege Georgio III. dignitate Equitis Baronetti, et a nobili societate negotiatorum, qui ab Indiis Orientalibus nomen gerunt, stipendio annuo, ornatus, nec non Legum Doctoris honore ab illustri literarum Universitate Oxoniensi insignitus, filio, tum bimulo, ex multis liberis superstite, unicam curam impendit. Anno 1792, rursus cum Comite Macartneio, viro clarissimo, Legato ad

Sinarum Imperatorem, a consiliis Legationis, profectus est: cujus itineris commentarios edidit accuratos, qui in omnium manibus versantur. Ad quos concinnandos, dum vix reversus in patriam, accingitur, incaute repulsa podagra, in hemiplegiam incidit: quanquam ne sic quidem animum despondit, sed, atrocem morbum contemnens, invicta patientia, librum de Legatione Sinica, anno 1796, absolvit. Post sex annos, viribus paullatim deficientibus, obiit diem supremum, mense Januario, anno 1801, ætatis Sexagesimo quarto; absente apud Sinenses filio, qui optimo, amantissimo et desideratissimo patri hoc monumentum posuit.

MDCCCXXI.

XXIV.

SELECTION

FROM

SIR GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON'S

Correspondence,

WITH HIS PARENTS AND FRIENDS, FROM 1753 TO 1800.

LETTER I.

Geo. Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Father and Mother.

Anno Ætatis 17.

Toulouse, May 2nd, 1753.

My dear Father and Mother,

When in Bourdeaux, I wrote you by Capt. Blake a letter, which perhaps you will not receive before this—You have in it an account of me while in that city.—Last Thursday evening I left Bourdeaux for St. Macaira— I arrived there about four o'clock on Friday evening—Mr. Ulick Burke sent a letter by me to a gentleman in that place, in order to provide lodgings for me, and advise me to the best travelling from thence to Toulouse.—The gentleman and I could not understand each other (for thereabouts the people speak a kind of dialect called Gascon) so well as to discourse; at last I asked him whether he could speak Latin—He answered, no: and at the same time brought me to a miller in the neigh-

bourhood who could, and was our interpreter. There I was advised to hire horses, as there was no other way of travelling, and on Saturday morning I set out for Toulouse, where I arrived yesterday. My travelling cost me a great deal, however, be assured I did not run on headlong without advice, for I took Mr. Bourke's in every particular, as to my manner of travelling, &c.

When in Toulouse, I immediately went to the Irish seminary, where I had an account that Mr. Dinneen was not superior of it, nor now in Toulouse, and that Dr. Lombard was dead—However, I was received by the present superior, whose name is O'Heas. Tomorrow I go into class, and by studying hard now, and in the vacancy, when the other young men are idle, I expect to be upon a level with those that are in class since last October—Otherwise I should have to continue here two years from next August, whereas, in this manner, I shall finish here in half that time.—

—Had I not my eyes wishfully looking back at Ireland, I should be very happy here:—

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

II.

The same to the same.

Toulouse, Dec. 5th, 1753.

I flatter myself, my dear parents, you will not doubt with how much pleasure I received yours of the 25th of September, and the 23d of the following month, and which advised me of the bills you were so good as to send me.

I dare say you will accuse me of neglect in not giving you a stricter account of what passed since I left Ireland: thinking a thing of that kind might fatigue and tire your patience, was what detained me: however, being assured it will not be disagreeable to parents, who always had and took an interest in every thing that concerns me, resolves me to give a long and I fear a tedious detail.

You may conceive the situation I was in when I lost sight of my dear mother and sister, who, I took notice, hastened back with resolutions no more to turn towards the ship—A certain hurry, a confusion seized me that I cannot express. Indeed, attacks of that kind were very strange to me, being then resolved to take all things that could happen as easy as possible.—I met with extreme good weather while at sea, and the crew answered to the weather. Mr. Blake was tender, and as civil to me as possible while sick and otherwise; nor can I except any one belonging to the ship, who did not shew me the same kindness. I was sick (if sickness I may call it) about two days.

After a favorable passage of eleven days, I arrived in Bourdeaux, and by good luck could speak French enough to find out Mr. Babe's, where I delivered Miss Lovelace's letter to Mr. Mills; who was so kind as to shew me to Mr. Burke's, who received me with all the kindness imaginable, and which he continued while I stayed in Bourdeaux.--That city, in my opinion, is more to be admired than the river that runs by it; however, the one concurs to the beauty of the other.—The town to the river; upon which it forms a semicircle, being

on the outside adorned or rather defended by three famous castles; besides which there are public gardens, pleasant walks, &c. and on the inside, within five gates of iron, beautiful streets, several large buildings of hewn stone, &c.

Having stayed at Bourdeaux five days, I took boat for St. Makeira, a small town about twenty miles from that city. I was upon the water about twelve hours, during which time, for the most part we were dragged, for want of depth of water, by men who held on each side of the river, ropes that were fastened to the boat; the breadth of the river in most places being not above twenty yards.—From St. Makeira, as I believe, I already mentioned, I took horse for Toulouse—I met with small towns every four or five miles, the most considerable of which were Tonnieres, Agen, and Montauban; remarkable, the first, for being built all of wood, and in such a manner, that there is hardly any distance between the roofs, though at the bottom the streets are broad enough, and that because in every story they lean the wood further out than in the former; and that way of building shews it to be ancient. —The second, for being the birth-place of the famous Scaliger, critick of the Greek and Latin poets.—The third, for being full of Protestants, who are called in France, Huguenots, and who, here, are rare enough.

The fifth day after I left Bourdeaux, I arrived in Toulouse, a city very well situated and of a large extent, but which has not inhabitants in proportion.—There are here fifteen monasteries of Friars, and about as many nunneries.—I do not mean such as there are in

Galway, there being here a monastery of Franciscans, almost as large as all Galway—Here are also a great number of fine churches, which beside the structure itself, are sumptuously adorned in the inside, conformably to the manner of the Roman Catholics.— There are here two colleges for philosophy, one of the Jesuits, and one of the Doctrineurs friars.—Also three colleges for divinity, that of the Jesuits, that of the Cordeliers, and that of the Jacobins, another order of friars. Two colleges for law, and two for physic, where the professors are not friars—Besides which in every other monastery there are professors of divinity and philosophy for their own novices—In Toulouse, according to computation, there are ten thousand students.—Here begins the famous canal of Lewis XIV. that is, a passage cut from the ocean to the Mediterranean sea, about two hundred and fifty miles long. Besides the pleasant situation of the town, it has several other ornaments, such as fine walks all about the town, which lately cost vast sums of money.—Several fine buildings, such as, for example, the town house, or as they call it, the capitol, which they began to rebuild three years ago, and is not yet finished. There is enough however to shew what its grandeur and sumptuousness will be.—In relation to the name of *capitol*, the chief magistrates of the town are called capitouls: they are eight in number, and by being capitouls are for ever after *noble*.

Here sits the parliament of the province. In France every province has its own parliament; but these parliaments rather resemble a high court of justice,

than what we understand by a parliament in Great Britain or Ireland. As to the size or fineness of the buildings, the colleges of Toulouse are not to be compared to that of Dublin. The Jesuits college is however the best and largest in this town.—In that college there are three professors of divinity, two of philosophy, one of the mathematics, and two of rhetoric, besides five masters, or as they are here called, regents, for the low classes: that is, to teach what, in Ireland, is necessary to learn in order to enter the college. The professors and regents are Jesuits. The students in philosophy enter into class at nine in the morning, and three in the evening. We leave class at half-past ten in the morning, and half-past four in the evening. We have, besides, conferences twice a day. We pay nothing for going to class, but we pay for the conferences—What we do at the conferences is to argue and answer. We have also persons called repetitors, who explain; to whom we pay, if in common with the rest, four livres a month, otherwise eight livres a month. The vacancy for students in philosophy, began the latter end of July, and ended the 18th of October—when we entered into class. The last time I was approved of to enter into the second year's philosophy, or to be in the same class with those who, at latest, began philosophy, the 18th October, 1752, though a great many of the class began philosophy a year before, and some even the 18th October, 1750.

The Irish seminary is no college, being only a place for students to lodge in, with this only difference, that there are some Irish priests, who pay no pension.—

Moreover the superior of that seminary must always be an Irishman, and the present is a man of great learning as to philosophy and divinity.—When I was at the Irish seminary, I went to class to the Jesuits college, and still do the same.

You have in your last, advised me to mind my studies.—I hope you do not doubt of a thing, by doing which only, I can shew my gratitude to those who sent me here to that effect.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

III.

The same to the same. Anno Ætatis 18.

Montpellier, Sept. 26th, 1754.

My dear parents,

——On the 11th of July, I left Toulouse, and had the pleasure of travelling with a Mr. Kelly of the county of Roscommon, known by a famous speech he made, on his trial for rebellion, in the year 1715. He was at that time secretary to Dr. Atterbury, the then bishop of Rochester.—His imprisonment for fourteen years in the Tower of London caused him to be forgotten, but his escape from thence at the end of that time revived his memory. He has been since secretary to the Duke of Ormond, was in the late rebellion of Scotland, and now lives in this country.—We travelled a part of the way on the famous canal of Lewis XIV. It is about three feet deep, sixty feet broad, and one hundred and sixty miles long. The immensity of the work however, has less rendered it

worthy the ancient Romans, than the great art of supplying it with the same quantity of water through the the whole of the way, and of making it run up hill and down hill, on a level and slantly, with the same rapidity and the same depth. Upon it we passed under a mountain, having the earth under and above us; over rivers and through rivers, by means of bridges and of props, without mixing waters with the rivers, through which and over which it passed.—A part of August and September it is dry, and then is the fishing time—They take the fish the waters leave.—The rest of the year, there are a great number of large boats, which go up and down the canal, bringing goods from Marseilles to Bourdeaux, and from Bourdeaux back; by which means the products of the Mediterranean and the ocean are communicated to each other, at very little trouble or expence. By that means also the descendants of Riquet, the undertaker of this work, who was a hackney clerk, are now peers of the realm.—On quitting the canal we came to a little town called Beziers, very remarkable for its being built on the summit of a steep mountain.—Yet they have wells there, and are sufficiently supplied with water—From thence we travelled in a chaise, to this town. The chief produce of the country through which we passed is wine and olives.—We arrived the fifth day after our departure from Toulouse—The journey is about an hundred and forty miles.

Montpellier is a large, populous, and rich inland town. Its streets are very narrow; its houses well built, and of stone, but cut no figure, for want of

a favorable situation—the irregularity of the place hindering it from being a beautiful one. It is surrounded with walls and guarded by a citadel.—Its walks are pleasant and convenient—Its physic remarkably good, and its air still better, which made it the resort formerly of a great number of our countrymen.—Few come here at present; they find Toulouse, Montauban, and other towns this side of France, much cheaper, and perhaps more agreeable. There are only here now, Mr. Fitzmaurice, cousin and brother-in law to the Earl of Shelburne; Mr. Hort, son to the late Archbishop of Tuam, and Mr. Bernard, son to the late Judge Bernard: he is uncle to the Earl of Charlemont, who is expected here every day.—I am acquainted with Mr. Bernard, who is a very good kind of man, came here for the benefit of his health, and is under the care of Dr. Fitzmaurice, the only Irish physician in this town, since the death of Dr. Fitzgerald, which happened about three years ago.—He was one of the professors here.—Dr. Fitzmaurice has now the business of all the English, Irish, and Scotch, that come here for the recovery of their health.—Strangers do not bear as good a character here for honesty as they were wont to do; a few days ago, the brother of an Irish baronet, after spending some money here, run away in debt—His creditors pursued him, and brought him back. He is now in jail.

There are about fourteen thousand families in this town, four hundred of which are Huguenots—They had the mortification of seeing one of their ministers hanged here about a month ago, for his religion, and

the glory of adding one to the number of their martyrs. Several of the Huguenots, as well as Roman Catholics, are great traders; they have a manufactory of silk stockings, which are good, but dear.—Their thread stockings are very bad and very dear. Lodgings and victuals are very dear.—Wine, oil, and fruit, are cheap. They have their fish from a small sea-port about 18 miles from hence; and their fowl from the country of Quercy, distant an hundred miles.—I have seen droves of hens and turkeys on the way here, as of sheep or bullocks on the roads of Ireland.

The manners of the people here are not unlike those of other Frenchmen. A certain levity, vanity, and assurance reigns amongst them, which for the most part proceed from a self-sufficiency, which their superiority over all the other nations of Europe in power, riches, learning, magnificence, and extent, seems to entitle them to. They are extremely civil and polite, especially to strangers. They have vivacity and wit, seldom friendship, sincerity, or good sense.—I only speak of their distinguishing virtues and vices relatively to those of our nation, and this is one; they are never idle.—Other Frenchmen have however a bad opinion of the people of this country: here is an instance—I was bargaining with a tradesman some time ago; he, to let me know his honesty, and that he would not impose on me, protested he was not a Montpellier man, that he was here only a few years, and that he was born an hundred miles from hence.

The university for physic here is famous; there are eight professors, some of whom are very eminent—

There are besides several physicians and surgeons who give lectures in anatomy, botany, chemistry, &c. There are about three hundred students, who, like those of Dublin, keep in awe the army and the populace.—There are two or three hundred apothecaries, whose chief business consists in distilling liquors and and waters, which they distribute to all parts of Europe.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

IV.

Edward Blakeney, esq. to Thomas Staunton, esq. Member of Parliament for Ipswich, &c.

Montpellier, Jan. 17th, 1755.

My dear Sir,

—There is a countryman of ours, and a namesake of yours, who upon my arrival here, did me the honor of a visit, a son of Col. George Staunton. He is, I assure you, a promising young gentleman, studies physic, and is very well spoken of by the gentlemen of the faculty.—

EDWARD BLAKENEY*.

* This gentleman died at the advanced age of near ninety, at his house in Newman-street, in the year 1799.—He had preserved a most unblemished character through life, and had acquired among those who knew him, the honorable, but at that time somewhat rare appellative of the *honest* commissary—He had been blind for many years before his death, but had long enjoyed the daily society of a select party of his friends, at his hospitable, though not expensive, table—He reserved a considerable part of his moderate income for charities to the poor, and died universally beloved and lamented.

V.

Geo. Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Father and Mother.

(Anno Ætatis 18.*)*

Montpellier, Jan. 31st, 1755.

My dear parents,

—We have also here Mr. Edward Blakeney, son to Mr. Thomas Blakeney, attorney. He has been these some years past secretary to General Blakeney, at Minorca, but that country not agreeing with him, he was obliged to come here for relief.—I have seen him, and he has told me, that he was acquainted with uncle Nicholas Staunton at Port Mahon, about two years ago: from whence, he says, uncle Staunton sailed for England some time since, where, on arrival, the ship to which he belonged was to be laid up. His captain's name was Proby, with whom he stood very well. He spoke very affectionately of a brother, who must have been my father, as they often wrote to, and I believe loved each other*.—

—Last November the states of this province assembled here—The duke of Richelieu is governor of the province, and holder of the states. They are, in diminutive, what we mean by king, lords, and commons.—The duke of Richelieu represents his master, the king of France; the clergy and nobility are the

* Nicholas Staunton, esq. married Anne, daughter of Willm. Elmsell, esq. of Thornhill, by whom he had only one child, named Anna, now living, and residing at Sandal, in Yorkshire. His widow married, secondly, — Kyd, esq. a widower, and father of the present General Kyd, and by this second marriage had one daughter, who married her cousin, — Elmsell, esq.

lords; the mayors and the other civil magistrates of the towns and villages, are the representatives of the commons—'Tis a show of liberty of which these people are very proud.

The states are of vast expence to the province, for the bishops, noblemen, and commoners, besides the governor, &c. receive very considerable sums for their residence, during the session, in this town, which lasts a little more than six weeks every year. They are of no real use to the country, as their whole business consists in voting money for the king, which amounts, at their immediate peril, to a shilling of what he is pleased to demand from them, and which this year is sixteen millions of French livres, or eight hundred thousand pounds sterling.—This is enough to show you the extent and richness of this single province, and give you an idea of the French king's revenues in general.—And yet he is in want; for I am assured he has anticipated the third year's revenues. Notwithstanding this obstacle to any additional expence, if we can give credit to reports spread in a place so far from court, there will be soon a war between this kingdom and Great Britain, and France is to be joined by Spain. It is said here that at Brest, and at Rochfort, there are upwards of twenty men of war preparing with the utmost expedition, which, under the command of Adm. Macnamara, are to carry, besides other necessaries, six thousand men or more, to the West Indies.—They also speak of an invasion, by the French and Spaniards, of Jamaica, and that the latter have taken several English ships of war and trade, being fully resolved to allow our ships

no liberty of commerce to the bay of Honduras, or the adjacent countries—All this I heard by chance, and do not pretend to assure it true.

You give me an account of every thing stirring, which is not only an amusement to me, but assures me you do not neglect or forget me as much as my fears would be apt to suggest—I would be glad nevertheless, you would speak more of your and my friends. 'Tis true, your silence in that respect should seem to imply their welfare—but, even so, there is a joy in reading of it, as much as we take in inquiring of those we love, and their health, though we see that to all appearance, they are perfectly well.—Not a word of my dear grandmother Staunton and aunt Nancy—I was often tempted to write to them, directly; but the fear of being troublesome hindered me.—At my return, shall I enter the same apartment, meet the same persons, in the same situation, and with the same affection! 'Twas that we wished, when last I went to receive their blessing and farewel—'Tis what I hope: 'twill be what (God send) will happen.

Nothing makes me more sensible of your tenderness for me, than the care you have of my health; for the preservation of which, and to follow your directions, I take a walk a little outside of the town, as often as I can, and this place affords several very pretty outlets. The town being situated on a hill, commands the country round about, which is most beautifully planted with olives, covered with vineyards, and intermixed with seats; which, with the addition of a view of the sea on the one side, of mountains at a proper distance on the

other, and opposite, a large citadel, the town being behind, completes a prospect hardly to be equalled; without considering also the brightness of the azure sky, which almost continually reigns above us.

The life I lead, as you may well imagine, inclines me sometimes to be melancholy—to divert it, I think of you and family; and I find that the reading of your letters is almost a specific remedy. I guard them very carefully for that purpose, and as a bond of your love and affection towards me.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

VI.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 19.*)*

Montpellier, Feb. 11th, 1756.

I received, dear parents, your letter of the 9th of last month, with as much joy and satisfaction, as your silence had caused me uneasiness and trouble.—I dont know whether you wait to fill your paper with news, &c. but you may be assured that I would rather receive a good many short letters, than one, though considerably long; and as for the expence, it seems it would be pretty much the same, for your last cost me exactly treble, what the others generally did; of which however I was surprised, there being no more paper than usual, so that I must ascribe it, if not to the large fold of the letter, or the thickness of the paper, to the caprice of the postmaster.—Besides all these reasons, I think you may very well fill the space of one sheet of paper, six or eight times a year, with

what is relative to yourselves and me, with reflexions, advice, and directions, which would be the more pleasing to me, having a full intention to obey you, not only because I ought to do it in duty, love, and gratitude, but as I am thoroughly persuaded they would proceed from hearts truly tender, and from minds so prudent as to recommend me, what, if I sincerely consult my own reason, must unavoidably occur to it. If I did not expect my dearest sister's letter, as you gave me room to hope for it soon, I might perhaps have answered yours before now, in order to put you in mind by my example to write to me oftener for the future; a late accident obliges me to defer this no longer, which I tell you beforehand is of no ill consequence to me, and now proceed.

Last Saturday, seventh of the month, a summons was sent to all, or most of the English and Irish here, to appear the next morning at nine o'clock, before the secretary to the governor of this province, who is now the duke of Mirepoix, late embassador in England: this summons was brought to my lodgings among the rest; I prepared to go there the next morning with Dr. Fitzmaurice; as soon as I got there the secretary informed me that the orders of the court were, that being a subject of England, I should immediately depart, and be out of the kingdom by the first of March, and the same orders were signified to the rest: for my part, I represented that I was a student of physic, which I always understood to be a sufficient privilege to remain here in time of war, as I was informed by those who were here the last: that, if it was absolutely

necessary I should leave the kingdom, I expected he would be so good to give, or get me leave to wait two or three months, by which time I might write to my friends in Ireland, and have their answer, with money to pay my debts and travelling expences, as well as to let me know where they would think proper I should go. Doctor Fitzmaurice, who is not in the case, being naturalized, seconded me, as much as possible, and offered to be security for my behaviour, &c. as also did the French physician under whom I study; on which the secretary said he would let the governor know my reasons, and at the same time demanded and wrote down my name, age, business, time of my arrival in France, &c. my father's name, profession, religion, and place of abode, &c.—The same day the doctor returned to the governor's, where the secretary told him he represented my reasons to the governor, who notwithstanding gave positive orders for my immediate departure, being compelled thereto by orders from court. Having received this account, and much perplexed, I resolved to write to Messrs. Lynch, of Bordeaux, to beg of them to furnish me with what was necessary for me in so pressing a necessity, and which neither my friends nor I could foresee.—However, as the post did not set out for Bordeaux till Tuesday evening, I had recourse on Monday to the last expedient, which was to apply to the university, that the professors might assert its rights, or beg the governor in a body to let me stay some little time, which had its desired effect, and obtained permission for me to

remain to take my degrees in physic, and that as soon as possible. This hindered me from writing to Bordeaux, and took away all my uneasiness; but I must leave this as soon as I take my degrees: according to the accustomed rules of the university, I pass batchelor of physic next February, or this time twelvemonth, and doctor the August following—If the professors should order me to make use of the privileges granted to foreigners, I should pass doctor by next August.—

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

VII.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 21.)

Montpellier, Oct. 15th, 1758.

I received, dear parents, your kind and long wished for letter. In consequence of your positive orders I set out tomorrow morning at five o'clock for Paris.—I write this letter particularly to let you know, by my immediate submission, my deference to your will.——

——I am in so much haste, that I'll put here an end to my scroll—On my arrival at Paris, I'll write a long account of every thing—After above four year's residence, 'tis harder to get off than you may easily imagine.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

VIII.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 21.*)*

Paris, Nov. 29th, 1758.

I wrote to you, dear parents, the 15th of last month—The next day I sat out from Montpellier for Paris, and arrived in seven days at Lyons, a city about fifty leagues, or 150 miles, from Montpellier, famous for its extensive trade and manufactures—Though I travelled in an easy manner, yet the fatigue caused me a fever, which kept me some days confined in Lyons. I quitted that town as soon as possible, my expences in a public inn being very considerable, and as the courses on the different branches of physic were immediately to begin at Paris. I determined to travel in a stage coach, which is the easiest, and most expeditious, but not the least expensive carriage.—According as I drew near Paris, the climate became more resembling that of Ireland. The very manners and customs of the people grew less different from ours than those of Montpellier, and as I considered at the same time that I drew nearer every hour to Galway, I found my spirits rise in proportion.—The province of Languedoc, where Toulouse and Montpellier are situated, being a country of vines and olives, and scorching heat in summer, I really imagined it must be somewhere near Ireland, when I travelled where I found extensive fields of corn, plenty of potatoes, and an almost total disappearance of southern fruits.—I arrived in this great city of Paris somewhat fatigued, but very well in health.—

—As to physic, this city has its several advantages as well as Montpellier. They have different branches in which they both excel. Midwifery, chemistry, and some others are cultivated here to a high pitch.—There are famous professors who have made discoveries in many parts of physic. After having spent so much money in the pursuit of my studies, I thought it would not be worth while to miss the courses given by those able men, though at a dear rate; otherwise my journey to Paris would be to no purpose—both my duty and my interest command I should render myself as capable as possible. Who knows but I may gather in in these courses what may raise my reputation and fortune.—

—The beginning of next November I shall leave Paris, and as, considering war time, I must go through Holland, I'll stop for some little time at Leyden, a famous university of physic. From thence by sea to London, where I'll make but a short stay, and at length (next summer twelvemonth, oh, long wished-for day!) I shall have the happiness, dear parents, of falling at your knees in Galway.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

IX.

The same to his sister, Miss Margaret Staunton.
(Anno Ætatis 23.*)*

London, February 15th, 1760.

Your first letter, since I left Ireland, I received, dear sister, a few days ago.——

——I had been acquainted in Montpellier and in Paris with Dr. Kelly, known in Dublin under the name of the famous *Surgeon Kelly*. This gentleman having resolved to go to the waters of Spa, in Germany, for the benefit of his health, offered to carry me with him there, where I might make some useful acquaintance, and inform myself in the physical practice of that place, with the effects of its waters, which are so renowned in Europe, and that we should return from thence to Paris. This happened very soon after I wrote to my parents last August, and I willingly accepted the offer. We set out and soon got into Flanders, where a new country offered itself to view; before, I had been accustomed to the rocks, the verdure, and the hills of Ireland; in different parts of the southern provinces of France, towards Spain and towards Italy, I had a constant view of the Alps and Pyrenean mountains, and round about me were interspersed, vineyards, olive trees, and burnt sod, instead of pasture.—To the north of Paris there are uneven grounds, large fields of corn, and groves of apple trees: but Flanders is one level flat field; no woods, no rocks, no mountains, are to be seen; the prospect is uniform, and in the beginning new and pleasing: the sameness and want of variety make it soon seem dull and tiresome. However, the plains of Denain, of Lawfelt, and the other scenes of bloody battles, which we often passed over, afforded some occupation to the mind; and the face of war which appeared in the fortifications of every village, must strike with awe.—We soon got into Germany, where the manners

of the people were as new to me as the situation and soil of the Netherlands, which I had passed through: the rough sincerity of the Germans is more distant from the ceremonies of the French, than the countries wherein they live. I was so long accustomed to the smoothness of the French manners, as well as to the softness of their language, that the customs and accents of the High Dutch were almost as strange to me as to a Frenchman—it was new and agreeable to me to find a nation liker to my own, than that which I had quitted, and 'twas at Spa that I drank tea for the first time for some years. Spa is the first and most famous place in Europe for medical waters. There is every season a concourse of people of all nations, who resort there.—It is a small village, calculated for the reception and entertainment of company; there are several sources of water, of different virtues, and adapted to the several constitutions and complaints. It is situated in a valley, surrounded by many mountains, very steep, craggy, and difficult to be got over; the little town, in its structure, its situation, and its improvements, is the most romantic place I ever saw, and it is found so agreeable that many persons pass the summer season there, who neither are, or think themselves, in any way indisposed.—In Spa I remained not very many days, as Dr. Kelly was advised to go to take some previous bathings at the hot wells of Aix-la-chapelle.—This is a large town, also in Germany; it forms a republic in itself, and is famous for its baths; for having been formerly the seat of the western empire; and, in these days, for the treaties of peace which have been

concluded there.—We were not long arrived at Aix-la-Chapelle, when Dr. Kelly fell dangerously ill; he languished many days, and then died. The doctor had been always extremely civil to me, and, had he lived, would have been an useful friend; he left me his watch, his sword, and some other things of less value: the money he had about him was very little more than sufficient to pay his funeral expences, doctor's fees, &c.—After the death of this good man, you may judge, dear sister, how perplexing and how disagreeable was my situation! At a great distance from any friend, but the one who had just died in my arms: deprived of him, and in consequence disappointed in my measures, and at a loss what other measures to take! I often had a mind to go wait at Leyden my mother's answer.————on the other hand, I supposed my mother would prefer sending me to Edinburgh than to Leyden to take my degrees,——; and this last consideration determined me to come to London, ready to go to either the one or the other of these universities to take my diploma. I arrived in London last October; I wrote home by Mr. Dillon, with whom I had travelled to England. I have been, since that time, in continual expectation of a letter from Ireland.——

——I expect from you a more familiar letter than I could hope from my parents; and I don't suppose you will take any trouble in the style, as you see mine is a rhapsody or medley, according as things presented themselves to my mind; and, as the perusal of this letter is only intended for you, I have not been so careful in my expressions or thoughts; I may have expressed myself too strongly.——

——I have met some acquaintances here. I met Mr. Thomas Staunton twice, have been to see him at his house several times, but never found him at home. The frank, which I'll enclose this scroll in, was given me by another person.—

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

X.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 23.)

London, March 20th, 1760.

The literary correspondence which is now settled between us, dear sister, will not discontinue till our meeting, if I can make it as pleasing to you, as you have made it agreeable to me. Your two last letters are come to hand; they have been to me the greatest satisfaction and relief. My mind is at some ease, since I can promise myself that you are sufficient to assure my parents that they will always find in me an affectionate and grateful son. I may differ from them in the means, but my aim shall always and inviolably coincide with theirs, in the comfort and satisfaction of my family.—I repeat so often, dear sister, this disposition of my mind, lest my parents should entertain the smallest suspicion of me, now that they have made me so near to be independent of them; it is therefore as this independence approaches, that I think myself obliged to erase, as much as in me lies, any doubt that should arise in their thoughts, concerning the goodness of my heart, till I am able by actions to give them undeniable proofs. My father and mother will, I hope, condescend to consult with and advise me, as friends,

relative to the steps I am to take in my future conduct.——In some things they are better informed and more able to judge than I am; but there are also some occasions in which I can determine, as better acquainted with the circumstances. Give me leave now, dear sister, to mention some which have biassed me in favor of what I only hinted at in my letter, but which seemed to alarm much my dear mother. [He proceeds to state an invitation he had received to visit the island of Santa Cruz, in the West Indies.]—

—He (Mr. Thomas Staunton) received me in a very friendly civil manner.—He knew from Mr. Murray, that I thought of going to Santa Cruz; he spoke to me about it, approved of it much, and asked me if I was determined to go, to which I replied, that I could not form any positive resolution, 'till I had my parents' consent and aid.——

——Enough of serious affairs. Let me now congratulate you, dear sister, on Lucy's [Mrs. Cormick's] marriage. No part of your letter gave me more real satisfaction, and I hope we shall have always reason to be contented with her husband, as I hope she will always endeavour to deserve a continuance of his esteem—I hope I may soon wish you joy on a like occasion, dear sister; I have been told that a Mr. Joyce paid his addresses to you, which you rejected; this I only mention to shew how reports spread.—Whether married or unmarried, I wish you in that situation which may most conduce to your happiness—This has always been the wish, and shall always be the endeavour of, dearest sister, your very loving brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XI.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 24.)

London, May 6th, 1760.

Dont be displeased, dear sister, if I have deferred writing an answer to yours for a few days. The uneasiness and wavering situation my mind was in, made it necessary to take some time before I could put pen to paper. I must first acknowledge your kindness in indulging me with a long letter; you know how dear to me is every thing that comes from you, or any of the family. The whole of your letter gave me much satisfaction, as it is a proof of the mutual affection we bear to each other, and the union that reigns among us.——

——I think no longer of going to Santa Cruz, as I perceive it would put my mother under such terrible apprehensions about my life.——

——I have seen cousin Thomas Staunton but once or twice since I wrote to you last; he is a remarkable good speaker, as I am told, in the House of Commons here.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XII.

The same to his brother, Aylward Leonard Staunton.*

London, June 20th, 1760.

I was particularly uneasy, dear brother, at the repeated accounts I received of your long indis-

* Aylward Leonard Staunton, born February 3d, 1747; died of a consumption, June 2nd, 1761, in the fifteenth year of his age.

position, and am therefore the more sensible of your kindness in giving me, yourself, an agreeable relation of your recovery. Your letters on such an occasion must be an uncommon satisfaction to me; but they will always, on every occasion, be highly acceptable and pleasing; and I hope our present affection for each other will never cease; on the one hand, I flatter myself you'll ever receive from me every instance of friendship that will be in my power to give; and, on the other, I dare say you will make the proper returns on your side; which are, attachment to your family, and good conduct in yourself. These maxims have been strongly inculcated in you, I am sure, while you had the happiness of being under the inspection of our good grandmother Staunton and aunt Nancy; it is probable they have made a proper impression on you, and it will be essential to the comfort of yourself and your friends, that you should ever retain them.—I am glad you have returned to the Latin and Greek school. The knowledge which you will acquire there, will be of service to you in whatever station in life, Providence should please to settle you, and is even absolutely essential in some. You must not neglect arithmetic, and I see by your letter that you take care of your writing; indeed your letter gave me an additional pleasure, as it was seemingly above the common productions of a youth of your age—and 'tis this maturity which induces me to write to you in a more serious stile than is generally addressed to unthinking school boys; I shall always with pleasure see

you exempt from those follies or levity which I fell into myself when in your situation.—Though there is some difference in our age, I hope I may always treat with you rather as a friend and equal, than as an elder brother, and superior.

I believe all our family will be glad to hear that I have some hopes of seing uncle Nicholas Staunton soon here, as his ship, the Richmond, is lately arrived at Spithead; uncle Thomas Staunton has had as yet no letter from him, but expects one every day. Uncle John Staunton may possibly be in this town also in the month of August.

I am afraid that our cousin Staunton's franks will not return free to me, as he is now in England: however I shall take what steps I can in this affair, and let my sister know next post; but whatever may be the issue, I expect (and give me leave to say, I insist) that I may receive constant letters from you and family. When I assure you it is my chief satisfaction here, and has been so every where else, I think you ought to indulge me in it often.——

——Present my love and respects to our friends in general, and be particularly assured, dear brother, of the sincere affection and desire to promote your welfare and happiness which you will ever experience in, your loving brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XIII.

The same to the same.

London, July 26th, 1760.

Dear brother,

I hope my addressing myself thus often to you will induce you to favor me now and then with a letter. I remember when I was of your age, I should have been proud of a correspondence; and though, at present, the pleasure which I feel on receiving a letter from any body indifferently, is a good deal diminished, if not entirely lost; yet one from you gives me the most sincere satisfaction, and the accounts of your welfare will be always most sensibly felt, as every thing which relates to you will be equally interesting and dear to me.—After what I have now said, you will not be surprised at the joy your progress in learning has given me. I wish your health was equally good, and hope it may soon prove so.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XIV.

The same to the same.

London, Sept. 30th, 1760.

The receipt of your letters, my dear brother, give me too much pleasure not to increase the number by answering those you have already sent, with alacrity and exactness. I must beg for the future that you will endeavour to write me longer letters than

you have hitherto done. If you pay any return to the sincere and unalterable regard which you shall always experience from your brother, you will not be at a loss to fill a sheet at any time, when addressed to me—any trifle you mention which may have the least connexion with yourself, will be very acceptable. I should be glad that your epistles were all your own, unaided by the assistance of a papa or a sister; you will thus acquire by degrees a facility of writing, which may be of service to you hereafter. The contrary is a defect often hurtful, and not easily overcome. For the future, be careful in your spelling; consult your dictionary: I shall take care to remark your faults, but above all, be not shy in expressing your own thoughts; make me your friend, and suppose me in these moments, no older than yourself. Let me know the progress you make in Greek and Latin, as well as arithmetic. The profession you are to follow is not as yet determined; and let that profession be what it will, no accomplishment can be useless. Were it possible you might acquire some knowledge in the French or Italian languages, it might hereafter be serviceable. Nothing gives me greater satisfaction than your great youth, because it makes me hope I may be time enough to provide in some degree for your welfare.——

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XV.

The same to the same.

London, Oct. 30th, 1760.

I have written four or five short letters since I received a line from any body in Galway. I hope they are all well. What excuse can you have, good brother, in not writing to me? My father used to send me journals when I was in France. They would be still amusing; but what would give me the greatest pleasure is, to have an account in detail of every one of my own family. My letters are necessarily short, because I can mention but myself.——

— I recommended you in my last, and do it still, that you mind your exercises at the different schools which you attend. Become perfect in ciphering, and book-keeping, as well as it can be taught you in Galway. It cannot as yet be determined what your profession may be, so you ought to be prepared for every thing.

I am told you are smart and sprightly, but you must cease to be a child. I hope my parents instruct you rather by advice than by corrections; and I hope that nothing is so dreadful to you as their displeasure.— Your eldest sister often directed my conduct, and gave me many good advices, though our ages little differed. Much more is she able to conduct you, who are so much younger, and therefore, be guided by her. My compliments to friends.

I am, your loving brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XVI.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 24.*)*

London, Dec. 11th, 1760.

My dearest brother,

I believe I mentioned in my letter to my sister the pleasure I receive from the letters you are pleased to send me, and from the accounts which are given me of your progress.—

—A friend of mine intends soon to publish a dissertation relative to inoculation, and is therefore desirous of knowing its state in different parts. This prompts me to beg that my parents will inform themselves from the physicians and others, of the numbers that have been inoculated in Galway, for some years past, or even this present year, specifying whether any died, or how many were inoculated without the small pox coming out on them.—It seems to me that this proposal, made in a delicate manner to the physicians and apothecaries of Galway, cannot be taken amis by them. Their names will be inserted or omitted, as they choose in the said dissertation. But exact accounts, on which dependance may be placed, are necessary, and no others useful. If any accounts can soon and conveniently be had from the neighbourhood of Galway, or county of Mayo, such would be highly acceptable—I make no doubt, but that my good friends and kinsmen, Dr. Egan and Dr. Joyce, are informed how this affair at present stands in the places I have mentioned, as well as in Dublin, and in other parts of Ireland. All such knowledge is necessary, and would be extremely agreeable.—

George Leonard Staunton.

XVII.

The same to his sister, Miss Margaret Staunton.

London, March 18th, 1761.

——Mr. Staunton will be elected for Ipswich, in the ensuing parliament, without opposition—The present parliament will be dissolved to-day. Many changes are expected in the ministry. The earl of Bute is the king's great favorite: and though the exaltation of a Scotchman be by no means pleasing to the people, they allow him a goodness of heart, a solidity of understanding, and a share of knowledge, seldom to be met united in persons of his, or indeed of any rank.—

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XVIII.

The same to the same.

London, June 13th, 1761.

Am I then, dear sister, without a brother! I pity you, I pity myself for such a loss; but above all, I pity my poor father. Ayly was his darling, and every one says that Ayly did deserve it. My mother had seen misfortunes enough without this addition. When first I heard that Ayly was so sickly and tender, I imagined the only chance that remained for him, was to undertake *that* which, in Galway, you thought the most improper and dangerous for him. I mean the going to sea. It has strengthened many a drooping constitution. But this I knew would appear hard-

hearted, so that I never dared to mention it: as such a proposal would certainly be rejected, and my advice take the name of cruelty. But all is now over. Dear sister, how unhappy we all are—the comfort of our parents, the delight of every body, the youngest of us all, dear Ayly, is dead!—.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XIX.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 26.)

Bristol, July 2d, 1762.

Well, my dear sister, I am just this moment setting out for Guadaloupe. The success of my undertaking touches you as nearly as it can do me. It touches you on the sides of interest and affection.—It would please me to enter with you now into a minute detail of the grounds on which my hopes depend; because, in fact, they are favorable: but the time is too short, and the place, by a tea-table, too improper. Suffice it then to say, that no man ever went on a better footing, or with stronger recommendations, or more reasonable expectations than I do now: futurity is uncertain and obscure to the most perspicacious eye, we must therefore reckon on nothing, which requires the help of fortune, and the concurrence of many causes. Yet when a probability offers to the view, the prudence of the measure is sufficiently apparent; no reproach can afterwards be thrown of precipitancy or of folly. I may die in a short time; and, in case even of survivance, I may continue without

riches: but so much is certain, I shall never repent the steps I have pursued, because I have been induced to take them in consequence of what the most mature deliberation for the interest of my family (which is the interest that determines me on all occasions) suggested to me. After having prepared against the worst, if preparations can be made against it, or having foreseen it, if we cannot forewarn it, it is surely very allowable to hope confidently for the best. To suffer miseries when miseries assail us, is a load that falls with weight sufficient on the greatest part of the human species, (and our family is no exception to this rule) not to aggravate it wantonly by the fear of others that may not happen. Through you, I expect my relations near you will not lose all remembrance of me. Reason is much less powerful in subduing passions than in transferring them to more deserving objects.—My pride at present would be, and it would be my only pride, to see a certain good couple placed once again in the calm and satisfied possession of their estate of Cargin—This is the fair side of fate. I do not choose to consider it on any other side; it would be answering no end. But, whatever destiny may be mine, let good Captain Kelly and this paper tell you, that you never shall be a moment distant from the heart of,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

The foregoing letter conveys some idea of that unconquerable energy of mind under the most trying difficulties, and that ardent and unalterable attachment to his family and connexions, which were through life distinguishing features of the writer's character; and which, neither absence, nor even neglect or unkindness could subdue.

The very interesting and affectionate letter, which Dr. Johnson wrote to him upon his embarkation for the West-Indies, bears a testimony to his talents and private worth at this early period of his history, which any individual, of any age, and in any station, might have been proud of: and has already been inserted at length in the Memoir, at the commencement of this volume.

Although the affectionate wish which the writer expresses in his letter to his sister, of being one day able to replace his parents in quiet possession of their estate of Cargin (which, though not alienated, had been leased for a term of years, in order to pay off certain incumbrances) was not realized; he had the satisfaction of obtaining, on his return from Madras, in the year 1785,(by the purchase of the unexpired remainder of the term of the lease) the possession of his paternal inheritance,the reversionary right to which had descended to him some years before, by the death of his father.

XX*.

John Nelson, esq. to Dr. Staunton, [*written in pencil*]

Charles Town, Tuesday evening,
Feb. 18th, 1766.

Sir,

Nothing in this life could raise my resentment, like that of an attempt to affect a friendship of a long standing—I will boast of sincerity wherever I professed it, and that I will go as far as any *he* on earth, without a single sinister view, although I do not always fall in with every ones sentiments; neither do I think any one, or set, have a right to question my uprightness when I do not choose to declare, on any particular occasion.—You have injured me in this respect, Sir, and I cannot leave town without telling you, that the moment I can, with propriety and justice to my friends abroad, I will require the satisfaction due for such a cruel design. I have *very* lately received acute pain, and am truly sorry that I cannot, without any particular occurrence requires it, mention a particular time, but this I will say—you may *post* me through England, or elsewhere, if I forget this affront, when, without injury to another, I may call upon you to answer it.

JOHN NELSON.

I had not an opportunity to write to you with ink, nor advantage of more paper.

* The reasons for inserting this and the two following letters, have been stated in the Memoir, p. 15.

XXI.

Dr. (afterwards Sir George Leonard) Staunton to John Nelson, esq. (Anno Ætatis 29)

Private Secretary's Office, near the
Government House, Dominica,
Feb. 19th, 1766.

Sir,

I have received this moment, on rising from my bed, your letter of last night, and cannot but be astonished at your accusation of an attempt, on my part, to affect you in the friendship of Governor Scott, to which no passion, no motive, human or divine, could possibly have led me. To be unjust towards you, and to deprive my own friend of much satisfaction, and perhaps service, without any possibility of satisfying thereby either envy, interest, or pleasure, is a supposition as strange as it is ill-founded.

However, as you seem determined in your opinion that I have endeavoured to injure you, it remains with me only to assure you, Sir, that I shall consent, when and where you please, to any mode of satisfaction which the prejudices of men authorize, or your resentment may suggest, however contrary that mode may be to my own ideas.

But as you mention that the connexions you have formed oblige you to defer demanding for some time that satisfaction you desire, I think I may, without, even without the appearance of, any improper or dastardly solicitude to justify myself in your eyes, just add, to what I have mentioned in the beginning of this letter, that, so far from being desirous of calum-

niating you; in the only letter which I wrote to Governor Scott, mentioning your name, and of which I read over every line to Major Winniett, I positively and and repeatedly said, that, *you were still, I was certain, a firm and attached friend to Governor Scott, though in your present circumstances and connections, you did not think you could safely perhaps testify it with warmth or violence,* or words to that effect, and equally at least, strong and favorable.

If Governor Scott is distrustful of [*two or three words illegible*] belongs not to me to determine how far his opinion is formed on information or observation. He might easily, I believe, see through my discourses, that I did not think you exerted yourself for him as much as I expected from your attachment to him, or the situation of his affairs required; but he could see no more.

It were improper in me, after the intimation you have given me of your designs, as soon as your connexions will permit them, to desire that Governor Scott should shew you my letter if he has happened still to have preserved it; but you may ask it from him if you please.

It might perhaps also appear improper on the same account, that I should mention the regret I feel, at losing your esteem and regard. A time may come when I may declare my sentiments without any inconvenience.

In the mean time, I have only to subscribe myself,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

P. S. The enclosed was sealed and directed before I knew that you were already set out for Grand Bay. I therefore send it you now directed there. As I have no consciousness of guilt to embarrass me, and that, as to danger, I am indifferent, I could have no delay in delivering my sentiments, and it may not be amiss that you should know them with promptitude.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXII.

John Nelson, esq. to Dr. Staunton.

Colebrook Bay, Feb. 19th, 1766.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of this day.—To be told by a man with whom I have enjoyed the most perfect and uninterrupted friendship, for the three last years past, that my conduct at Grenada was such as did not discover the warmth I professed to have, and that you, upon your return, had asked him the question, whether I was not his (the governor's) friend, or whether he did not suppose me such; and that on being answered in the affirmative, you had replied, that I had not acted as such, or words to that effect; to which I attribute the uneasiness, which, thank God, is now happily removed:—If this was not sufficient to rouse a man who knew he had not once acted in the least degree inconsistent to the sacred ties of friendship, which ever held that person the first in his esteem in this country;—I should think any one unworthy of so good a friend, if he was indifferent, when

he thought there was an attempt to disunite him, and from a quarter too where there had not been the least shadow of provocation.—When I could boast of being as active in my own way, and I dare say as serviceable in the cause, and with as good a heart and will, as any one man or set in that island, and would as openly have defended Governor Scott, whenever an occasion offered, it was extremely hard, that because I did not fall into measures, which I did not think so prudent, as you imagined they were, that I should be so censured.

Why could I not be told of these suspicions of my acting out of the character of a friend—I might then have thought proper to have cleared myself of such aspersions, were it only to prevent a doubt of that kind; and, rather than have ventured the giving the least uneasiness to my friend, have been explicit even then, both in respect to my joining in the first transactions, and declining to stand member at Grenada.—As to the latter, I was determined to leave that with the governor, and to take his advice, whether to be in the house or not:—choosing to be returned for the government where he commanded, if he thought either his or my own affairs made it necessary.—If that never reached your knowledge, half Grenada could have told you of it:—and the governor can shew it under my hand.

From the same principles on which you have been explicit, I have also; and I dare say, neither will suspect the other of any thing improper, or dastardly, for being so.— Report fully satisfies me, that is no part of your character—Had I thought it, I should not have

addressed you as I did.—I have told you exactly how things appear to me, and how nearly it affects me, when I suppose any interfering in friendships which I value.—By your letter, I apprehend there may be mistakes; no man hates differences more than I do, or wishes more to have them subside when they happen, when it is possible. For with me, it is with equal regret, that you express yourself, that any regard or esteem is lost; I never designedly gave any man offence, neither can I remain silent when I suppose myself injured—I shall be in town at the sales in the morning, and remain there the whole day, and shall readily talk the matter over; in the mean time, I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,*

JOHN NELSON.

XXIII.

George Leonard Staunton, esq. to his sister, Miss Margaret Staunton. (Anno Ætatis 31.)

London, Nov. 15th, 1767.

My dearest sister,

The excessive bad state of my health in the West Indies has hastened my return to Europe, where I am just arrived. The settlement of some affairs in England has also been an inducement to my voyage.—I propose going abroad again, as soon as I shall be able, in order to complete those establish-

* It has already been stated, that an entire reconciliation took place.

ments which I have begun, and are advanced in Grenada and Dominica: and I flatter myself that, in a couple of years more, I shall be able to replace my family in as agreeable a situation, with regard to fortune, as they had formerly enjoyed; which has ever been the object of my endeavours in life. I shall probably sail from Cork; and I have some thoughts of paying a short previous visit to my friends in Dublin and in Galway. I take the liberty to request you will offer my respects and love to our dear parents, and to many others whom I need not name to you. I shall be happy in hearing from you immediately, with all family intelligence.

I remain ever, my dearest sister,
your truly affectionate brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXIV.

The same to the same.

London, Dec. 1st, 1767.

My dearest sister,

The real happiness which the receipt of your letter this day has given me, recalled to my mind that pleasure, I deprived myself of, by my long silence. It would certainly be the greatest consolation I could meet in the midst of all my illness, and all my disappointments, to have had now and then a line from my dearest sister. But I had my motives for not writing, though perhaps not sufficient ones.

I am under the necessity of staying some little time longer in London; but I shall set out, I hope, very soon for Bath and Bristol, and from thence to Ireland. The desire I am earnestly warmed with, of seeing you and our dear parents, in Galway, among whom I reckon the widow and Miss Ann Staunton, will not permit me to make any delay upon the road which I can possibly avoid—The winter cold has given me a very troublesome cough; but I am habituated to sufferings, and this will not be durable. I beg you will remember me in the kindest manner to Counsellor James Staunton*, his lady, and family, and to all our other friends. I hope my dear mother is perfectly recovered from the effects of that illness, which you mentioned she was afflicted with some time ago, and to which you add a circumstance very affecting to me. I hear from every quarter, and with every degree of joy, that my dear father is in excellent health.

I have been favored with a kind letter from my aunt Leonard.

If you have any commissions that I can execute for you in London, mention them in your next letter to me, which I shall be impatient to receive.

I remain, my dearest sister,
your ever affectionate and devoted brother,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

* James Staunton, esq. of Waterdale, was his father's first cousin—His eldest daughter, Catherine, still survives, and is the wife of Walter Lambert, esq. of Cregclare, a gentleman of large property in the county of Galway—by whom she has two sons and three daughters.

XXV.

The same to his parents. (Anno Ætatis 31.*)*

London, Dec. 5th, 1767.

My dear parents,

It is a subject of great happiness to me, that I have any way contributed to the satisfaction you are pleased to express in the letter with which you have just honored me. My silence did not deserve so good a return. But I thought it, though with regret, a prudent, and perhaps necessary caution; lest any accident should happen to me, which was very likely; or what would be still worse, if I had been totally unsuccessful, which was still more probable.

The affairs of my establishments in the West Indies, which are to me the most important, are almost settled. I shall entrust to others what remains to be transacted for me in this town. Before Christmas I shall be at Bath, if nothing unexpected intervenes.—From thence I shall proceed to Bristol, and afterwards turn my steps towards Ireland—My arrival in Galway will be a moment of happiness to me, which I have not for a long time enjoyed.

I take the liberty to beg you will present my best respects to my relations and friends, who are near you —I shall execute your commands with regard to Mr. Westlake.

I am, my dear parents,

Your dutiful and affectionate son,

George Leonard Staunton.

XXVI.

The same to his sister, Miss Margaret Staunton.

Dublin, Jan. 9th, 1768.

My dearest sister,

If you have been kind enough to have written to me in the course of last month, your letter did not arrive in London till after my departure fron it, but it is to follow me to Galway.—The stay I made in Bath and Bristol was very short, and in proportion to the impatience I have to see you.—Yesterday morning I arrived here in company with Lord Lifford, his lady, and family, whom I knew in London, and joined upon the road through England.—Mrs. Dawson*, her two pretty daughters,and my young niece Cormick, are the only persons I have seen since my arrival. My intention is to remain here but a very short time, but I do not know the day I shall probably set out for Galway; it will be next week certainly.—My parents will be almost ashamed to have so old a son, and you, a brother, as sickness, anxiety, and fatigue, have rendered me.

Be so good as to desire that letters, directed for me in Galway, be kept there for me—My respects await my parents and friends. Adieu,

My dearest sister,

from your affectionate brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

* The Hon. Mrs. Massy Dawson was his first cousin, being the daughter of his maternal uncle, John Leonard, esq. of Carra, in the county of Galway. Her husband, the Hon. Mr. Massy, took the name of Dawson, agreeably to the wishes of his maternal grandfather, whose estates he inherited—Their son, I. H. Massy Dawson, esq. is the present M. P. for Clonmell.

XXVII.

The same to the same.

Bristol, Tuesday, March 15th, 1768.

My dearest sister,

The post I am told is just going out, and only permits me to inform you that I am just arrived, in health and spirits, after a long but pleasant passage. What stay I shall make here, or what may be my future steps I cannot say, as I have not even time as yet to read those letters which I desired to be directed for me here, and which I suppose are come.

My next letter, which shall soon be written, is likely to be longer. My duty to my parents and friends; believe me, my dearest sister,

ever your most affectionate brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXVIII.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 31.*)*

London, March 29th, 1768.

My dearest sister,

Your kind letter just come to my hands, when I was angry with myself for not having requested you to write without waiting to hear from me. You may judge how agreeable it was to me.—My reproaches ceased against myself, when your goodness rendered the occasion unnecessary. For the future I shall expect every thing from you, which can possibly be done. Indeed, I had always formed such a

Clarissean opinion of you, that at length I was surprised in not being disappointed when last I saw and knew you.

From Bristol, I wrote a very short letter to you.—It is but too true, that besides the affliction of my friend Governor Scott's death, it is still of greater personal disadvantage to me than I at first foresaw. However, I lose not my spirits, and nothing is to be changed in the arrangements that I mentioned to you in Galway.—

—Your Assizes are drawing near. Let me have a full and circumstantial account of every anecdote and event. Not a trifle but will please me, the economy of the house, clothes, servants, and a thousand other circumstances are to be mentioned in detail. Balls, parties, dances, are certainly to be mentioned at large.

Mr. Staunton of Ipswich and his lady are in town. The lady is in much better health; and the son growing stronger. They invited me to dinner but I was engaged. The election went entirely in favor of Mr. Staunton, and his friend.—

—London is now in an uproar. Mr. Wilkes is returned knight of the shire for Middlesex—every house illuminated. Lord Bute's, the Lord Mayor's, and every house where the least delay appeared of putting candles, had their windows broken—every person in the street forced to huzza, Wilkes and Liberty No. 45; and the same written on all coaches, chairs, and other carriages.

Mr. Morris is here, and well received by Messrs. Burke, but nothing as yet determined concerning him;

but he is well, and means to write to his friends in Galway soon.

Mr. Melville, governor of Grenada, is expected home; and I believe it true, as my Lord Hillsborough, secretary of state for America, told me that it was so. It is offered me to be secretary to Ulysses Fitzmaurice, uncle to the Earl of Shelburne, who is to take the general command of the Islands. It is possible I shall accept it. So that I must set sail without delay.—Be so good to direct your letters to me, to be forwarded by *Messrs. Scrimshire and Thornton, merchants in London.*

Let me hear from you often. It is my most earnest request. On particular occasions relating to you, my mother can take the pen.

You may be assured I shall take great care of myself on account of my friends. To see you again will form my greatest happiness.

My best love to my good grandmother, my parents, and my other relations and friends—Continue in good spirits, in health, and be, what wishes your affectionate brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXIX.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 32.*)*

————, 20th April, 1768.

My dearest sister,

This is the 20th of April, and I write to thank you for thinking of me yesterday, [his birth-day] which I am sure you did.

You have received some letters from me, and been at much expence, but members of parliament were mostly busy at their elections.

Pray when are you likely to get into your new house? perhaps not till October, which is the very time, and not before, that you shall hear from Mr. Gleadowe, the banker.

Remember how many sheets you are to fill up to me every week; and, if you are ever uneasy about me, or any way in low spirits, I shall take it very much amiss.

Contrary winds have detained me a long time—Adieu,

my dearest sister,

your ever affectionate brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXX.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 32.)

Grenada, July 26th, 1768.

My dearest sister,

It is now three o'clock in the morning; you will excuse me, therefore, I request, for not writing to you fully now, but shall soon.—

—Mrs. Cormick is lately delivered of a boy—My duty and affection to my parents—Believe me,

my dearest sister,

your ever loving brother,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXI.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 33)

Barbadoes, May 1st, 1769.

My dearest sister,

My affairs have been in so uncertain and fluctuating a situation since I arrived from Europe, that I have not indulged myself as often as I could wish in the pleasure of writing to you, though there is not a person who knows me intimately, who does not at the same time know, that you are the person always and uppermost in my thoughts.

My silence renders me still more indebted to you for the kind and truly sisterly letters you have taken the trouble to write to me—By some of them I find that I have not received all, but hope I shall, on my return to the island of Grenada, which I left about six weeks ago on business.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXII.

The same to his parents. (Anno Ætatis 35.)

Wallop, Hants, Sept. 12th, 1771.

My dear parents,

In my determination to alter my condition from a single to a married state, it was a great additional satisfaction to me, that such an event would be very acceptable to you. Though your dis-

tance precluded you from the opportunity of judging of the propriety of my choice, or of giving your advice, or granting your consent, upon any grounds of knowledge, yet your partiality towards me would have led you to repose yourselves upon my discretion and discernment. However, I should not have failed acquainting you with my intentions, but that, whether from the peculiarity of my situation, or from the doubts which generally accompany ardent wishes, I considered the union uncertain until it actually took place. By my silence I secured you, at least, from disappointment.

Since I have been made happy in a most amiable wife, though I have been blameably remiss in not writing to you, yet I was the less uneasy, that I knew my dearest sister communicated to you a very early account of it. And the length of time is attended with the advantage of being able to assure you from experience that your daughter-in-law is worthy of you; and that it remains with me to endeavour to render myself worthy of her.

It was once my hope that we could pay our personal respects to you; but the necessity of my affairs deprives me of that indulgence, and forces me to return to the West Indies, where my wife's goodness and affection induce her to accompany me, without reluctance and without solicitation.

I am, my dear parents,
your ever dutiful and affectionate son,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXIII.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 37.)

Fortune Castle, Grenada, July 20th, 1773.

My dear father and mother,

—I now sit down with the greatest pleasure to communicate to you the account, that my truly dearest sister, whose welfare is to me of the very highest concern, was married on the 16th of last month to Mr. Blake.—I do not know any man in the world likely to render my sister so happy as he will—He is here in an advantageous situation.—His ambition will not be so great as mine has unfortunately been, and he will be less liable to disappointments.

All my uneasinesses gave way to sentiments of another nature, when your account came of my dear mother's illness. The distance, which it has hitherto been my ill fate to be placed from you, has not taken away from the gratitude and affection I bear towards you—I hope in God, you will both preserve your health, and that we here shall enjoy the happiness of seeing you once more in Galway—Your daughter and grand-daughter Staunton present their love and duty.

I am, ever your affectionate son,

George Leonard Staunton.

XXXIV.

The same to his sister, Mrs. Blake.

(No date, supposed soon after the preceding.)

My ever dearest sister,

My misfortunes* have still left my heart as sensible as ever to the danger of having nearly lost our dear mother—her goodness and virtues are perfectly well present to my mind: and it would be a loss that I should always deplore in any circumstances.—Generally after a severe fit of illness, a long continuance of health is to be expected: let us, therefore, draw that consolation from it.

The recorder's death has given me much pain: but the calamity of this life is such, that no person who remains in the world any time, but is exposed to the evil of being deprived gradually of his dearest connexions. I should have been glad to have seen your letters, and shall be obliged to you to send them to me, which you are kind to offer. They will be greedily read by me in any situation, but I could not think of opening them before I forwarded them to you: persons, I think, should have the satisfaction of reading first their own letters.

Thank Mr. Blake for all the trouble he is taking for me—The negroes will, I hope, be well employed while at Staunton Grove, either in weeding, supplying, plant-

* This alludes to the disordered state in which (owing to the mismanagement of his agents in his absence) he found his estates of La Fortune, Staunton Grove, &c. on his return to the island of Grenada in the preceding year.

ing, &c. and putting the same in some degree of order. —I am in hopes I shall keep the estate of La Fortune, notwithstanding Mr. Irwin's efforts to deprive me of it. But the best that can happen is to sell the land lately holed, opposite Madey's, to Mr. Scott; some land not holed, near Mr. Houston's, to Mr. Houston; and most of the provision grounds to Mr. Snell: we must plant, in that case, more at Staunton Grove, and more on other parts of La Fortune; and I shall also endeavour to sell a part of Levera, the furthest off.— There will still remain at La Fortune more excellent land than I shall be able to cultivate for many years— It will even then be a noble estate.

Hayling is I hope employed. If he cannot do the outside of the house, let him do the repairs within; and then the repairs of the house of Staunton Grove, which want it much.—Tell Mr. Blake, I am obliged to him for giving sugars to Yeaton—He is more mindful of my interest than I am. Mr. Irwin and I are the conversation now about town.

I am ever, my dearest sister,
your's most affectionately,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXV.

The same to his parents. (Anno Ætatis 39.)

Grenada, July 31st, 1775.

I take the opportunity of Mr. Rush, to write a few lines to my ever dear parents; and the

rather, as the bearer has lived some time on one of my estates in this island, and may give you some account of my situation.—

—I have met a loss I shall ever lament; the loss of my poor child, my dear mother's, and dearest sister's namesake. She died the 20th of last month. Mrs. Staunton expects soon to give you another grandchild*. —I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXVI.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 40.)

Grenada, April 4th, 1777.

My dear father and mother,

It was a great satisfaction to me to receive your kind letter of November last, and would have been greater, if I could have found by it that you were not sometimes in ill health. It is my case to be often so; and what I really consider worse, is, that there is always some new event, which puts back my affairs, and makes me now almost despair of ever seeing Europe. The American war is of the utmost bad consequence to the West India islands, and my affairs suffer particularly by it. We must, I fear, content ourselves with corresponding with each other; and I request that you will be so good as to favor me often with full accounts from you.—

* This child died also soon after its birth.

—Mrs. Staunton has not been in good health for some time, and went to a neighbouring island for change of air some little time ago, which appears to be of use to her.—I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXVII.

The same to the same.

Grenada, June 4th, 1779.

My dear parents,

—The present attorney-general of the Grenada Island is now in England, and having succeeded to an independent fortune, will not probably return here, in which case, I have the promise of Lord George Germaine, who recommends for these appointments to the King, to procure it for me.—

I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

XXXVIII*.

Mons. Gisbet Dumont à Mons. Le Febre de Bazagny, Curé de Tourly, pres Pontoise.

à la Grenade, 22 Juillet, 1779.

Un des vos confreres, mon cher neveu, que je respecte comme mon pasteur, et mon meilleur ami, a qui je voudrois pouvoir rendre service en toute

* Several letters, written at this period, have already been introduced into the Memoir, p. 21—29, and have therefore been omitted here, although they otherwise properly belong to this series.

sorte de rencontre, s'interesse particulierèment à Mons. Staunton, gentilhomme Irlandois, son pays, et mon bienfaiteur, quoique avocat de ma partie, dans une affaire, ou sans lui, je me trouverois encore accroché dans les mains de la chicane, ou de l'injustice, qui me retenoit une habitation dont je n'ai maintenant la possession que par le service et le travail de cet honorable gentilhomme. Comme il se trouve du nombre de ceux qui ont eu le sort de Milord Macartney, c'est à dire, qu'il va passer prisonnier de guerre vraisemblablement à Paris, ou il pourra faire quelque sejour, et ou je ne doute point, que son merite et ses amis particulieres ne lui procurent de bonne connoissance et forte protection. Neanmoins, comme je voudrois n'être point en reste avec lui d'honnêteté, ni refuser à mon père spirituel, son ami, ce qu'il a droit d'exiger de moi en cette occasion, et sachant le credit que vous donne aupres de Mons. de Belisle, l'estime particulière d'ont il vous a toujours honoré, j'espere que vous voudrez bien l'employer en faveur de Mons. Staunton, dans les cas ou il pourroit avoir besoin de la protection de ce seigneur.

GISBET DUMONT.

XXXIX.

Le Comte Dillon à Mons. le Duc de Lauzun, en son hotel, Barriere de Roules, à Paris.

Au Fort St. George de la Grenade,
le 24 Juillet, 1779.

Le porteur de cette lettre, mon cher Lauzun, est M. Staunton, gentilhomme Anglois, habitant de

cette ville, qui va en France comme ôtage. Je le recommande à tes bontes les plus particulieres, et ce sera une preuve de ton amitié, a laquelle je serai tres sensible. Adieu, mon cher Lauzun, tu connois la tendre amitié que je t'ai voué pour la vie.

DILLON.

XL.

M. B. A. Lescallier à Monsieur le Duc de Nivernois, pair de France, chevalier des ordres du Roy, gouverneur de la province du Nivernois, &c. &c. en son Hôtel, rue de Tournon, a Paris.

à la Grenade, le 25 Juillet, 1779.

Monsieur le Duc,

Je vous supplie de pardonner a votre ancien serviteur et protegé la liberté qu'il prend de recommander à vos bontés un des ôtages, qu'on envoye en France, et qui vous presentera cette lettre. C'est M. Staunton, gentilhomme Irlandois, jurisconsulte celebre. Lors de la prise de l'isle, il etoit un des aides-de-camp du general de S. M. Britannique, avec rang de colonel. Il a vû par cet evenement evanouir une partie de sa fortune; c'est le sort des choses d'ici bas. Ses talens, son merite personnel, lui restent; ils lui suffiront pour obtenir partout ou il ira, cette consideration dont il jouissoit ici, et plus particulierement celle du duc de Nivernois, qu'en est un si bon juge. Je suis avec les sentimens les plus respectueux d'attachment et de reconnoissance,

Monsieur le Duc,

Votres tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur,

B. A. LESCALLIER.

XLI.

M. Roumé de St. Laurent à M. le chevalier de Lambert, a Paris.

Grenade, 25 Juillet, 1779.

Monsieur,

Les liaisons d'amitié qui ont subsisté entre M. Staunton et moi, depuis mon retour à la Grenade, ne me permettent pas de le laisser partir pour Paris sans obtenir de lui qu'il veuille bien se charger de vous remettre la presente, par laquelle je prens la liberté de vous le presenter, comme un gentilhomme Irlandois, d'une tres bonne maison, qui a toujours joui d'une reputation distinguée; vous jugerez bientot par son esprit, ses connoissances, et son amabilité, que je ne pouvois saisir une meillure occasion de vous prouver mes sentimens, qu'en vous mettant à même, de faire la connoissance de M. Staunton.

J'ai l'honneur d'être tres inviolablement,

Monsieur,

Votres tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur,

ROUME DE ST. LAURENT.

XLII.

M. de St. Laurent à M. de Valmont de Baumare, censeur royal, a Paris.*

Grenade, 25 Juillet, 1779.

Monsieur,

Je ne puis mieux vous exprimer la reconnoissance qui je dois a l'agréable reponse que

* Author of a valuable Dictionary of Natural History, in fifteen volumes.

j'ai reçu de vous, qu'en vous procurant la connoissance de M. Staunton, gentilhomme Irlandois, mon ami depuis plus de douze ans. Il réunit tant de merite, de science, d'amabilité, que je crois qu'en me disant son ami, j'aurai beaucoup fait pour meriter la continuation des sentimens que vous avez daigné m'accorder; ils sont tres precieux. Votre correspondance me flatte infiniment; et je ne defererai pas long temps à augmenter nos observations sur l'hist. nat. mais pour le present je n'ai que le tems de vous assurer du respect et de l'amitie avec lesquels j'ai l'honneur d'être,

Monsieur,

Votre tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur,

ROUME DE ST. LAURENT.

XLIII.

M. de St. Laurent a M. De la Lande a l'Academie des Sciences, a Paris.*

Grenade, 25 Juillet, 1779.

Monsieur,

Les reproches tres obligeantes, que vous avez bien voulu me faire par l'organe de Me. de St. Laurent, m'interressent trop pour que je differe d'un instant ma justification: par ou commencerai-je! La seduction peut me reussir; elle n'est pas toujours illicite: je vais en user envers vous: bien assuré que

* This distinguished astronomer lived to a very advanced age, and died at Paris, during the reign of Buonaparte.

vous me remercirez, d'employer pour obtenir ma grace, une occasion que je ne pouvois attendre, que de la revolution des empires. Je crois que j'aurai tout reparé, en vous procurant la connoissance de M. Staunton, gentilhomme Irlandois, mon ami intime depuis plus de douze ans. Vous êtes, monsieur, plus capable que moi, de juger les rares connoissances dont il est doué; je me contente de sentir toute la reconnoissance que je dois aux preuves qu'il m'a souvent donné de son attachment, et de vous assurer que je n'oublierai jamais la gratitude qui je vous devrai, si vous lui accordez une place dans votre intimité.—Il pourra, monsieur, me justifier de n'avoir point executé vos demandes sur l'observation des marées, en vous faisant le recit de tous les contretemps qui m'en ont empechés; je n'ose encore pouvoir me flatter de remplir votre commission: je tacherai neanmoins d'y proceder dans peu.—Ma femme m'a fait le plus grand plaisir en me faisant part des liaisons de connoissance qu'elle a formée avec vous. Je la recommande à votre amitié. C'est le testament de celui qui ne se flatte point assez pour se croire philosophe, mais qui ne craint pas de vous ecrire qu'il est pour la vie, avec autant d'amitié que de veneration,

Monsieur,

Votre tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur,

ROUME DE ST. LAURENT.

XLIV.

Me. de Gannes de Charras à Monsieur le Marquis de Paulugny, a la Cour.

Fort Royal, 26 Juillet, 1779,
à la Grenade.

Si deux mille lieux de mer ne s'opposoient, je voudrois, monsieur le Marquis, avoir l'honneur moi-meme de vous presenter M. Staunton, homme d'esprit d'un grand merite, et d'une tres bonne maison d'Irlande; mais la chose n'etant pas possible; je vous prie d'être assuré de mes regrets, et de faire à ma lettre un aussi bon accueil que vous le feriez à ma personne.

Vous ne serez pas long temps, monsieur le Marquis, a sçavoir le merite de l'homme que j'ai l'honneur de vous presenter; c'est un esprit a grand talent; non de ces talents que l'on acquiert par le secour des maitres, mais de ceux que donne le genie; et qui se trouvent toujours au besoin: il y a seize ans que je le connois; et je puis dire, qu'il est digne d'etre connu de vous.

J'espere que cette occasion qui me procure le plaisir de me rappeller a votre souvenir, me procurera celui d'avoir de vos nouvelles. Recevez l'assurance du sincere attachment avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être,

Monsieur le Marquis,

Votre tres humble et tres obéissante servante,

De Gannes de Charras.

XLV.

Hugh Conway, esq. to le Comte de Cleonard, at Paris.

Grenade, 27 July, 1779.

Sir,

As I know that the acquaintance of men of merit and abilities has been always agreeable to you, I have the honor of introducing to you, the bearer of this, the Hon. George Leonard Staunton, a gentleman of property, and of the first civil and military rank in this island. You will soon discover him to be worthy your of esteem and friendly offices. He is sent to France prisoner of war, by count d'Estaing, who took this island by storm, and obliged it to surrender at discretion; of the particulars of the capture, no one can inform you more exactly than Mr. Staunton, who was aid-de-camp to Lord Macartney, the English general.

—I beg you will be kind enough to make my best compliments and respects agreeable to your family.—

I have the honor to be with great esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

HUGH CONWAY.

XLVI.

The Gentlemen of Grenada to Geo. L. Staunton, esq.

Grenada, July 28th, 1779.

Dear Sir,

We are very sorry that the hurry of your departure prevents the gentlemen from meeting, on the subject of lessening the load which falls on you as hostage, but we make no doubt that a suitable remittance will be made to you by the next conveyance, which we consider as a mark of justice, as well as of our esteem.

We are, with regard,
Sir,
your most obedient servants,

Alexander Campbell,
Alexander Houston,
John Grant,
Al. Symson,
Gilbert Eames,
Alex. Winniett.
Francis Horsely.

XLVII.

Extract from the journal of Mr. Walker, one of the passengers on board the Menagere, on her passage from Grenada to France.

Grenada, July 29, 1779.—At 2 o'clock this day, Mr. and Mrs. Staunton, Colonel Ogilvie, Mrs. Clemson, and myself, went on board the Menagere, a French store ship commanded by captain Faurez, in order to proceed to France. We found the ship large and commodious, and beside ourselves, there were about twenty other people from Grenada, that had been ordered to France, and a considerable number of soldiers of the 4th regiment, that had been taken in the transport, at the engagement between Mons. D'Estaing and Admiral Byron.—

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Thursday, Sept. 16.—Morning dark and cloudy, and the wind high. The sea was so rough all night, that none of us could sleep for the ship's rolling. About 10, the wind freshened, and we were obliged to take in sail, and the sea grew still rougher. Soon after dinner it began to blow the hardest gale I had ever seen—It took us, too, quite unprepared, for our top-gallant masts were standing, our sails unhanded, and several of them set. We hurried in all our sails except the fore-sail, with all the expedition possible, but it blew so violently that the fore-sail was not strong enough to resist it, and before two o'clock it was torn into rags. It is impossible to express the violence the

wind now had. It blew a perfect hurricane. The sea ran amazingly high, and the ship laboured exceedingly.

In this manner it continued without the least intermission, and with a violence rather encreased than abated, till two or three o'clock in the morning. About eight in the evening, we found the sugars that we had taken in from the vessel in distress, had shifted to the leeward side of the ship, by which all her leeward side was sunk considerably in the water, and exposed to seas that were continually breaking over. We now thought ourselves in great danger, and most probably should have been all lost, if Mr. Moreau, the second captain, had not determined to throw some of the guns overboard to lighten her—Accordingly, eight of her lower tier guns were thrown out, and she immediately righted, and lay much easier during the remainder of the gale. About this time a heavy sea that we shipped on our quarter, broke down our quarter gallery on the leeward side, and carried it quite away; and the sea that came in was so considerable as to overflow the *grande chambre*, and was with difficulty stopped.—The water that came in was so much, that in Mr. Staunton's cabin, it was up to one's ancles, and all over that deck on the leeward side, nearly the same. The St. Barbe (a part of the ship so called) was almost in a float. The stands for the bedding, the bedding, the boxes, and every thing else in it, were thrown from side to side according as the ship rolled, in the utmost confusion, so that I was obliged to sit up all night.

Friday, Sep. 17.—The wind still boisterous, and the weather cloudy. The sea very rough, no vessel in

sight—As the day advanced the wind a good deal abated, but still very strong and squally. About nine the sun shone out, and we discovered a vessel very near us, dismasted, and apparently in much distress. Upon our coming up to her, she fired a gun as a signal of distress, and hoisted a white flag in her shrouds. She was then almost directly before us.—At eleven, we passed her about the distance of a gun-shot. Nothing could equal the melancholy picture she presented to us; all her top-masts and almost all her rigging were gone, all her lower works almost under water, and upwards of thirty people, among whom were some women, some half dressed, some in their shirts, and all in the greatest confusion, standing upon the quarter deck, the only part that appeared to be dry, lifting up their hands in the most distressing attitudes to beg our protection; but the sea was so very rough that it was impossible to hoist a boat out, and if we had, the waves were so great that the boat must have sunk before it reached her—One can scarcely imagine any thing to add to this striking picture of human misery.

We continued looking at her for nearly two hours, in hopes that the sea, which began considerably to abate, would permit us to go to her assistance, when, all at once, she sunk to the bottom, and every soul perished. This happened about two in the afternoon. The sun now shone bright, the wind grew less and less every hour, and the sea considerably diminished; but the distressing scene before us damped a good deal the satisfaction we received from our escape.—The wind

towards evening was quite moderate, and the weather fine. No one could tell any thing of the vessel that had sunk, but some of the people said that they believed she belonged to Nantz. She was a ship of three masts, and pretty large; her sides painted yellow, and her stern black with a yellow border.

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JOHN WALKER.

XLVIII.

Geo. L. Staunton, esq. to M. De Gannes, à la Grenade.
(Anno Ætatis, 43.)

Cap St. Domingue, 13 Aout, 1779.

Mon cher monsieur,

Au lieu d'avoir fait route en droiture pour France, ainsi que je comptois faire, la Menagere eu ordre de se rendre au Cap de St. Domingue, ou nous arrivâmes le 8 de ce mois. L'Escadre de Mons. D'Estaing y etoit dejà depuis quelques jours. Ma femme et moi, tous deux incommodés, eumes la permission de venir à terre par le moyen de monsieur le Viscomte de Noailles, qui ne cesse d'être mon ami dans toutes les occasions.

La ville du Cap qui est endorsée contre un très grand morne, formé presqu'en amphitheatre, est le foyer, ou se concentrent les rayons du soleil, sans que l'excessive chaleur qui s'y sent, soit temperée par le moindre

mouvement dans l'air. C'est en verité l'endroit le plus etouffant que j'aye jamais vu. M. D'Argout, qui eu beaucoup d'honnetêtes pour moi à la Martinique, mais qui, depuis que je suis devenu sujet François, a diminué un peu ses egards, n'a pas voulu me permettre d'aller respirer l'air de la campagne a moins que quelque habitant repondit de moi.—Je n'ai pas voulu donner cet embarras à un tres ancien ami de France demeurant auprès du Cap, qui m'envoya un cheval; et je pris le parti de me priver du plaisir de le voir, ainsi que de celui de satisfaire ma curiosité au sujet de la campagne de ce pays ci, et surtout de celui de revivre un instant dans un air frais et libre.

Ma femme est à peine sortie de sa chambre depuis que nous fondons ici. Elle est absolument hors d'etat d'ecrire. Sans quoi Me. De Gannes, a qui je vous prie de presenter mes vœux et mes respects, auroit de ses nouvelles directes. Elle m'a chargé de lui dire, et à vous, mille choses que je vous supplie de prendre pour dites, car vous trouverez deja ma lettre assez longue; et je finirai en vous conjurant de nouveau de pardonner toutes les peines que ma procuration vous aura dejà donné, et qu'elle vous donnera encore, et en vous assurant des sentimens de reconnoissance et devoument avec lequels je suis, &c.

George Leonard Staunton.

XLIX.

The same to M. de la Touche, Commandant de Rochefort

Du bord de la Ménagère,
ce 27 Octobre, 1779.

Monsieur,

Quoique je n'ai pas l'honneur d'être connu de vous qu'en ma qualité d'ôtage de la Grenade, je me flatte, d'après le caractère que vous possedez de bienfaisance et d'humanité, que vous voudrez bien excuser la liberté que je prens de vous écrire, lorsque vous sçaurez que les besoins de la santé chancelante de deux personnes, dont une est une femme délicate, sont les motifs qui m'y portent.

Mons. Faures vient de m'annoncer que vous aviez ordonné qu'on m'envoyat par eau à la Rochelle. Je suppose que cet ordre a été donné avant qu'il fût sçu que l'embarcation destinée à me porter, n'avoit pas joint la Ménagère avant son arrivée auprès de Rochefort. Mais à présent que le vent est contraire pour la Rochelle, et que le sejour abord d'une embarcation incommode, pourroit, dans l'état d'epuisement et de maladie où ma femme et moi nous nous trouvons actuellement, devenir funeste pour nous deux, j'ose vous demander la grace de nous permettre de nous rendre par terre à la Rochelle. Nous partirons demain matin.

Les lettres que Mons. le comte de Durat, gouverneur actuel de la Grenade, Mons. le viscomte de Noailles, et d'autres personnes de distinction, ont bien voulu écrire en ma faveur à Mons. de Sartine, Mons. le duc

de Lauzun, &c. si je pouvois avoir l'honneur de vous les montrer, vous prouveroient que je ne suis pas indigne de vos bontés.

J'ai l'honneur d'être, avec un profond respect,
Monsieur,
Votre tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

L.

The same to Mons. De Gannes à la Grenade.

Rochelle, Novembre, 1779.

De St. Domingue je vous ai ecrit une lettre racommandée aux soins de Mons. Briere de la Martinique; et c'est à lui aussi que je ferai recommander celle que j'ecris à present; car je connois pas d'occasion directe pour la Grenade, quoique l'on assure que Mons. de Montazet, colonel commandant de regiment d'Enghien, y passe en qualité de gouverneur.— La conquête de cette isle a faite une grande sensation dans ce pays-ci, ainsi que le combat naval contre Mons. Byron, dont je vous envoye le plan, ainsi que celui de l'ordre de bataille des flottes d'Espagne et de France réunies: j'y joins le plan de la baie de Gibraltar qui attire aujourdhui l'attention des politiques. S'il y avoit encore quelque chose ici qui put vous interesser, je serois bien charmé de vous l'envoyer aussi; mais la Rochelle ne fournoit pas beaucoup; ou vous serez surpris de savoir que j'y suis encore en Novembre; mais nous n'avons debarqué que le 28 Octobre à Rochefort.

On alloit nous envoyer avec plusieurs prisonniers, de la riviere de la Charante dans une chaloupe non pontée, à la Rochelle. Le vent nous etoit contraire. Nous aurions été deux ou trois jours à faire la route, à la faveur de la marée retirante : il faisoit dejà froid : pendant toute la traversée j'avois été attaqué de fievre: un acces dans une chaloupe exposée, m'auroit donné pour tombeau, le vase de la Charente. Ma femme auroit pu avoir eu le même sort. Dans ce moment je me suis repenti de n'avoir pas pris de vos lettres pour Rochefort. Je pris enfin le parti d'ecrire à M. de la Touche, commandant de la place, qui me permit tres poliment d'y debarquer et de m'y reposer des fatigues d'une voyage penible et dangereux ; en effet nous souffrimes beaucoup, surtout dans la tempête du 16 Septembre, ou nous faillimes perir. Nous jettames une bonne partie de nos canons, à fin de nous degager. Nous vimes perir devant nous un bâtiment corps et biens, sans qu'il fut possible de sauver une seule personne.— Vous pouvez juger des suites, puisqu'on écrit de Bourdeaux que, de seize navires de la Martinique destinés pour ce port, il n'en étoit arrivé que deux. On se flatte qu'une partie de la flotte aura relaché aux isles, ou à la Nouvelle Angleterre.

M. de la Touche me dit à Rochefort qu'il convenoit que je me rendisse à la Rochelle, et d'y attendre les ordres du ministre. En consequence j'ai annoncé a ce dernier mon arrivée, et je lui ai envoyé la lettre que Mons. de Durat m'avoit remise pour lui. La reponse que j'ai reçu est ci-jointe. Actuellement je me prepare pour mon voyage, qui sera tres couteux, car avec les

acces de fievre qui me poursuivent encore, et la santé delicate de ma femme, il seroit très imprudent de vouloir voyager dans la voiture publique, qui est en route une grande partie des nuits. Il m'a fallu acheter une voiture. Je m'arreterai en chemin suivant la necessité.

Depuis mon arrivée ici j'ai reçu toutes sortes des honnêtetés des habitans. C'est ce que ne m'a pas surpris, ayant dejà autrefois eprouvé les mêmes egards en France. Ma femme est aussi très contente. Elle a été à la comedie, qu'elle commence à comprendre; car elle a fait des progres dans la langue Française. Elle a été charmé de la musique du petit opera qu'elle a entendu; jugez du plaisir qu'elle aura à Paris.

Il n'y a que l'incertitude de mon sort qui repand un peu de serieux dans mon cœur. Ce seroit à l'amertume si je n'avois pas laissé mes petites affaires entre les mains d'un ami qui en tirera tout le parti possible. C'est en verité bien necessaire, car mes depenses sont multiplié a l'infini, malgré le gout naturel de ma femme pour l'economie, et malgré ce même gout que ma situation m'a fait adopter.

Milord Macartney a été detenu quelque tems en France; il est actuellement en Angleterre. On avoit repandu beaucoup des bruits très faux sur son compte. Entre autres d'un demêlé assez vif avec M. de Chilleau abord de la Diligente; bruits auquelle ce dernier a donné un dementi formel, par une lettre imprimée dans le journaux. Mons. les marquis deVoyer, l'eveque de la Rochelle, et celui de Limoges, qui j'ai vu ici, l'ont trouvé très aimable et regrettent beaucoup sa societé.

L'on assure que M. de la Galernière est nommé chef d'escadre. Je m'en rejouis par l'interêt que vous y prenez. Mon intention avoit été à Rochefort, de passer chez lui, pour lui donner le plaisir de lui dire que j'avois vu monsieur son fils chez vous en bonne santé, malgrè tous les coups de cannon qu'il a entendu renfler autour de lui, mais M. de la Galernière s'est trouvé à sa campagne.

Quand même il me seroit permis d'ecrire des nouvelles, je serois embarrassé de vous en donner des certaines. On parle toujours un peu de paix, mais je crains qu'il n'y a pas encore assez de coups donné pour amener cet evenèment désirable.

Vous seriez peut-etre assez mari, pour negliger de presenter à madame, votre epouse, l'assurance de mes respects, quand même je vous en chargerois: ainsi cela se trouvera dans la première tentative que fera ma femme pour écrire en françois a sa bonne et chere amie. Si ses sentimens pouvoient lui inspirer le françois, ce seroit moi qui serois dans le cas d'être son ecolier.

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GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LI.

Benjamin Collins, esq. to George L. Staunton, esq.

Salisbury, Dec. 7th, 1779.

Dear Mr. Staunton,

I received your melancholy letter of the 10th of July, giving us the sad account of the French taking and ravaging your island, which, as you must imagine, gave us all infinite concern, more especially my poor wife, whose tender frame, loaded with long anxiety for Mrs. Staunton, was scarce able to support under it; but to wave this disagreeable subject for a more pleasing one, we were all exceedingly happy to hear by yours of the 7th, and Mrs. Staunton's of the 4th ultimo, that you were safely arrived at Rochelle in France. Mrs. Staunton's very sensible and good letter of the particulars of your distresses at Grenada, and account of your long and perilous voyage from thence to France, is very much admired by all who have seen it, and has drawn tears from many of her friends, all of whom join her parents in the most ardent wishes for your safe arrival in Salisbury, which I own I had flattered myself with the pleasing hopes of, for this week past, and this indeed was the only reason for my not writing to you sooner; but I desired Mrs. Collins to write to her daughter, and my son to you, immediately on the receipt of your's, which I hope you received in due time.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

We are daily in hopes of either seeing you here, or of hearing from you, and indeed are a little surprised,

we have not a line since yours of the 7th ult. as aforementioned, which, indeed, was a long time upon the road, as I did not receive it till the 28th past. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that we are all tolerably well, and sincerely hope this will find you and Mrs. Staunton the same, whom we wish every blessing and happiness in life, and a speedy and safe arrival in Salisbury; and I am, with sincere love to Mrs. Staunton, in which all here unite,

Your very affectionate father,
and humble servant,
BENJAMIN COLLINS.

LII.

Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq.

Paris, October 25th, 1779.

Dear Sir,

I have this moment learned that the Menagere is arrived, but I have not been able to learn whether you are on board.—If so, I should have been very happy to see you on many accounts.—I set off for London to-morrow, and hope to be able soon to effect my exchange. The liberty of serving in any capacity is very essential, and I hope in your situation that you are not to be restrained.—You will be so good as to let me know how that matter stands, and every other particular in which you imagine me to be interested for you or myself.—Mr. Scott will inform you how the affairs of Grenada are. He was authorized to tell me from Lord George Germaine, that they (the

ministers) were very well satisfied with me.—The proprietors and merchants complained not a little, but now that they are acquainted with the truth, I believe they will do me justice. It was very unlucky that my dispatches were delayed, for the information first received made a wrong impression on many; but all is now cleared up. Adieu, dear Sir, and believe me to be, with the truest esteem and regard,

very faithfully your's,

MACARTNEY.

LIII.

The same to the same.

Lissanoure, Jan. 1st, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I am to thank you, which I do very sincerely, for your two obliging letters of the 8th and 21st past.—The first I received just at the moment I was stepping into my chaise to come to Ireland, and the other has this moment reached my hands.—It is impossible for me at present to write at large, but I wish always to assure you that my regard and friendship for you are the same as when I saw you last, and that I shall be happy to have it in my power to give you sincere proofs of them.

I have the King's letter, appointing you attorney-general of Grenada, which was returned to me by the packet, that arrived in the West Indies just after our island fell.—I shall keep it for you: it may, perhaps, be one day of use; but I wish I had something more solid in my hands to keep for you.

As to my exchange, for M. de Verdiere, I really know not how it stands.—The proposition came from him, and I persuaded them in England to consent to it, if it should be agreed on in France. M. de Verdiere came to me at Paris, and told me that he was a prisoner, and had been plundered by our people of all his effects, in the same manner that I had been plundered of mine by *their* people. That, *n'ayant pas le sol*, he had no resource but to serve, which he could not do till exchanged.—His friends, he said, would forward any thing of that kind, that could be contrived; he therefore proposed that he should interest his friends, and I should interest mine, so as that we two should be exchanged by our repective courts, *sans tirer en consequence pour d'autres.*—I readily entered into his ideas, and brought to England several letters from him to Lord Hertford and other persons of distinction to whom he was known, who interested themselves on his behalf, and, in conjunction with mine, obtained the consent of my court, that M. de Verdiere should be exchanged for me, if the court of Versailles should agree to it. The notice was regularly transmitted through the usual channel from the secretary of state, to the sick and wounded office, and so from thence to the French commissary M. Du Haut, at Versailles.—But since that time I have never heard more of it. I shall therefore be much obliged to you to enquire how the matter stands.

As I am not a military man, my liberty or detention is a matter of mere indifference to them, and therefore, I should rather imagine my exchange would not be diffi-

cult, especially as M. De Sartine, who is a man of honor, assured me I should have every facility on his part, to accomplish my enlargement. I shall be obliged to you to let me know what I am to expect, that I may take my part at once.—Thinking it possible that, notwithstanding all I have written above, I might be chicaned in this matter, I have come over here to settle my affairs as well as they can be after the *delabrement* they have suffered, and shall be ready to return to France whenever they chuse to call upon me; but I should flatter myself that any apprehension of this kind is groundless, and that the business is long since settled, especially as the proposition came from M. de Verdiere, and that they have the best of the bargain, he being an excellent military officer, and your humble servant having been bred in a civil line.

If you will call upon Sir John Lambert, and shew him this letter from me, he will be so good as to go with you to M. De Sartine, and, being agent for our prisoners, will be able to give you his assistance in this business. He is a friend of mine, and you will therefore use my name to him.—He will introduce you to M. Francès, who was minister from France in London with the Duc de Chatelet, and is a great friend of M. de Verdiere's, and solicitous for our exchange.—Among them you will be able to learn, *ou en sont les choses.* Direct to me in Charles-street, Berkley-square, and I shall receive your letter on my arrival there, in the course of this month. I propose to set out for Dublin to-morrow, and in a few days shall proceed for England.

It will be a little hard upon me after the plunder I underwent, to be still regarded as a prisoner, and be prevented from serving even in a civil line; as by that means alone, I can recover the severe losses I have sustained.—How different were our proceedings at Omoa, in the Bay of Honduras. It was taken by storm as Grenada was, and yet not an inhabitant, soldier, or sailor, was plundered of a single dollar, or the smallest part of their private effects.

I shall say no more on this subject, you are perfectly master of it, and you will proceed as you think best.

I am, with the truest esteem and regard,

very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

LIV.

Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Staunton to Mrs. Collins.

Paris, Jan. 18, 1780.

The 8th of this month I had the happiness of receiving my dearest mama's letter of the 27th of December; the day I hear from you is always the time of the greatest enjoyment to me; and if I were inclined to be proud, the flattering commendations with which you mention the relation of my voyage, which I forwarded to you from Rochelle, were enough to make me so. But indeed on the contrary, I was for a time alarmed at the size of the packet I had prepared; and it was on my dear mama's affectionate heart that I depended for the favorable reception of every detail

concerning me; though now I find that even my most remote acquaintances, through pity for the variety of my sufferings at sea, and by the capture of Grenada, have been partial to the account I have given of them. After what you are pleased to mention of their opinion, I shall be almost ashamed to shew myself at Salisbury, where I shall be far from answering their ideas of me. If I *had* talents I should readily employ them, to describe to you how much I am affected at the kind remembrance of my uncle Cooper, and all my other friends. Their desire to see me, encreases, if possible, the impatience I feel to get to England. It is my wish that it may be in the company of my husband, whose tender attentions have enabled me to survive the distresses I have met with; and who would partake very much in the gratification I shall find in being once more in the midst of my dear parents and relations.

Mr. Staunton, with a view of getting his leave, has waited on the minister at Versailles. He took that opportunity of letting me have a sight of that famous palace; but the weather was so cold for a West-India constitution, that I did not enjoy the grandeur that surrounded me. I was beside in a Habit, which I found from an officer in the French guards, the Count de Lardenoy, who had promised to shew me the court, was a dress not suitable to the place. However, I had a peep at the queen, who is indeed quite a woman, for she seems perfectly to enjoy her beauty; she is very handsome, and her state is magnificent. My dress and English appearance caught her eye, as she passed by me to go to chapel, and many a courtier seemed to

envy me the look she cast upon me. Her train was borne by a lady. All her attendants, though persons of the highest quality, seem to give up, for the pleasures or advantages of a court, their own dignity and consequence, and appear with the humility and anxiety of common servants in the presence of their mistress. She walked very fast through a long and magnificent gallery, decorated with statues, paintings, and lustres: the ladies, embarrassed with large hoops and long trains, could scarcely follow her. The Comtesse D' Artois, and *Madame*, married to the king's brother, and Madame Elizabeth, the King's sister, were also in the procession. Their trains were borne by gentlemen, but they were otherwise confounded in the crowd.—The apartments which I saw, beside all the grandeur which painting, sculpture, and architecture can produce, were, by the means of looking-glasses in every panel from the ceiling to the floor, multiplied on all sides, so as to appear to be without bounds, and really looked like enchantment.

While I was employed in satisfying my curiosity, Mr. Staunton was at the levee of the minister; and it seems he must be there pretty often, before he can accomplish his purpose. He went with Mr. Scott, who has been already a considerable time in Paris, and is not yet ready for his departure. Mrs. Scott is also here, and we have been together frequently; but I do not know how far it would be convenient for them to have me and Mrs. Clemson with them on their return to England. However, I yet hope to have Mr. Staunton with me; and, at any rate, should not have

proposed to my brother William to come for me, had he not first mentioned that he had some thoughts of taking a trip this way.

I am almost ashamed to say that I am tired of this fine capital: but indeed, I do not enjoy my health in it as well as I did at Rochelle. Besides I prefer the calmer pleasures of friendship, and the affection of kindred, to more lively enjoyments. It is not however the fault of the people here, if I am not happy. We have been visited, and handsomely entertained by many families of fashion. It is the ladies here who constantly invite. When first I received a card from the Countess de Rochard, to dine with her, I supposed her husband must have been in the country, and was surprised to find him at table confounded among the guests. The person to whom the greatest compliment is intended, is put at the head of the table; and, as a stranger, that honor has been frequently conferred upon me. The lady of the house sits at the middle of the table. There are generally three courses, of which the dessert is constantly the most costly. At Mons. Darlincourt's, a farmer-general of the king's revenues, we had dessert knives, forks, and spoons, richly gilt; and every thing else in proportion.

In the furniture, size, and number of the apartments, magnificence is consulted more than neatness. The rooms are generally hung with rich silk or handsome tapestry, with chairs suitable in pattern and color, of which there are two sets in a room, one for use, and the other more splendid for ornament. The rooms are exceedingly lofty, and adorned with looking-glasses of

a great height, between the windows, which are nearly level with the floor; the panes are of the size of coach glasses, and the whole makes a striking appearance.—In the dining rooms, in lieu of chimneys, they have stoves, which warm equally the whole room, and are very comfortable. All the genteel houses have courts, with large gates to them, through which the carriages drive in.

It is chiefly men who are employed, instead of chamber-maids, which to an English woman is very disagreeable. The floors are of a dark kind of wood, I believe oak, cut into square pieces, and laid in large diamonds; they are never washed, but dry rubbed, which is done by people hired for that business, who put their feet upon the backs of brushes, and keep moving them backwards and forwards, which looks as if they were dancing. The servants of the meanest rank are commonly seen with ruffles, bags, and muffs; nor could I observe any ill dressed persons even in the upper galleries of the play-houses. The other evening I was at the first exhibition of a play, called the English Lord and French Knight: you may guess who was rendered the ridiculous character. The English servant was represented speaking broken French, swearing, and getting drunk—The lord was exhibited full of insolence and pride: but I must do the audience the justice to say, that they did not seem much to relish national reflections.

There are a variety of public entertainments here, which really are very necessary to remove the gloominess, which the height of the houses, and the narrow-

ness and darkness of the streets inspire. In the midst of these amusements I did not forget my favorite one of music: our friends procured us tickets for the Concert des Amateurs, the first in Paris, held at the palace of the Prince de Soubise. There were not fewer than seventy performers, chosen from some thousands. The Italian taste, it seems, is gaining ground here. The principal violin, and the leader of the band, was a mulatto man, called Monsieur de St. George, a native of St. Domingo; he is here in the character of a gentleman, and plays for amusement.—He passes at present for the best musician, the best fencer, dancer, and rider, in this country, so that his complexion does not prevent his being admired and envied. The vocal performers shewed great extent of voice, but cared less to afford that pleasure which proceeds from harmony. At this concert I had an opportunity of seeing Mr. Bach, Signor Piccini, and Mons. Philidor, who are reckoned the greatest musical composers of the age.

Mr. Staunton directed my attention to the pictures round the concert room, by informing me they were the portraits of the family of Rohan, ancestors of the Prince of Soubise, the principal supporters in their time, of the Protestant religion in France. He has shewn me also since, the spot, not far from our lodgings, where Henry the Fourth of France was stabbed, for being supposed partial to his Protestant subjects.—Whenever I am able to go out, Mr. S. takes me to see some of the curiosities of this place; but the severity of the winter will not allow me to go very often abroad.

It is a great comfort to me, that you and my dear papa keep your health this weather: it has given me a violent cold, which is now the general complaint here.—

—You will find me, I fear, much altered, from the many troubles and climates I have gone through; and especially from this jaunt, that Count D'Estaing has given us. Though Mr. Staunton could not be in very good humour with him, he thought it prudent to pay him a visit on his arrival, at his country seat, near this city. The count received him with vast civility, and kept him to dinner. We were that day engaged abroad: and therefore, on receiving a note from Mr. S. I found myself obliged to face, alone, a large French company. The name of Count D'Estaing was an ample apology for my husband, who gratified the company, when he came in the evening, with some account of the conqueror of Grenada, and of the princes, dukes, and other persons of the first rank, whom he had met on that day. The embarrassment I had been in, was quite surprising here, where women often go into company alone, and scarcely ever with their husbands.

When first I arrived, I found it necessary to conform to the practice among the ladies of embracing each other on meeting; but was very near getting into a scrape, and borrowing some paint from a lady's cheek, when I luckily took notice that kissing on the *chin* is the contrivance now adopted to avoid such accidents. You may judge how much less agreeable it was to me to be learning these new fashions, than it would have been to enjoy all the cordiality of one's own family and friends at a Christmas meeting. It

gives me much pleasure, even at this distance, to hear of the joyful celebration of that festival at Winterslow. New year's day seems to be here the time of bustle.—Every person hurries to see and compliment every one of his acquaintance, but is sure not to meet with any of them, as on that day particular directions are given not to be at home. It is about this time that the carnival begins, which is the season of balls and festivity, and continues till Lent.

There are masquerades three times a week at the opera house, particularly on Sundays, which is the day on which all sorts of spectacles are allowed, and are the most frequented. This is a custom I have not adopted; nor have I indeed been at the opera but once, though I think no amusement in Paris equal to it.—The music was Mr. Bach's, and in perfect taste. The dresses and decorations the grandest I ever saw, and the machinery and deceptions of sight really wonderful and pleasing. The dances are also elegant; but I expected in that respect to have met with better at an entertainment called the *Grands Danseurs du Roi*, where however I found much less dancing than singing, and excellent pantomimes. The humors of the different classes of people in and about Paris, seem to be very well hit off at another playhouse, called the Variétés Amusantes. And there are still others which as yet I have not visited.

I spent a morning, when the sun shone forth, in walking round the garden of the Thuilleries, which is as beautiful as any thing so very methodical can be. Though it is of a large extent, the whole is seen at

one glance, which I cannot think so well contrived as where one at almost every step is agreeably surprised with some new prospect. But the statues are so fine, that it does not require to be a connoisseur to admire them. It is a matter of astonishment to me how marble can be made to represent the expression of the sentiments of the mind so perfectly.

Among the ornaments of this capital are the Boulevards, which are the city walls, very wide, with double rows of trees, through which one may ride or walk almost all round Paris. There are broad and handsome quays on each side of the river which runs through the middle of the town, and they make up, in some measure, for the narrowness of the streets.

Of the churches, I was most anxious to see that of Notre Dame, as I had heard of it formerly in England. Among the first things which struck me on entering it, were the colors taken at poor Grenada, hanging up there in triumph. There are some monuments erected in this church in the manner of Westminster Abbey, particularly a late one, which struck me very much, of an affectionate wife, contending for the life of her husband with the figure of Death, who points at time, to let her know his hour is come, and cannot be deferred. There are four and forty different chapels or altars in this church, at all of which prayers may be said at the same time. But there is no comparison between this building and our St. Paul's, or even, in my humble opinion, Salisbury cathedral.

As soon as there is a fine day, I shall continue my excursions in and about this town, and shall accom-

pany Mr. Staunton once more to Versailles, that I may satisfy the whole of my curiosity there: but notwithstanding all these occupations, home still recurs to my remembrance; and what attracts me there is my desire of the company of my dearest parents and relations. In the mean time I entreat you will accept, and offer to them, my affectionate wishes. Mr. Staunton joins his best respects. Please to remember me to all my friends, and such of my acquaintance as you may meet. The time is I hope now not distant when I shall embrace you, and repeat with the truest pleasure the expressions of the love and duty, with which I am ever, my dearest papa's and mama's

affectionate and obedient daughter,

JANE STAUNTON.

LV.

George Leonard Staunton, esq. to Mrs. Collins.

Harwich, April 22nd, 1780.

Dear Madam,

This instant the packet is come to an anchor, and I hasten to write to you before the mail goes ashore, that your daughter and I are at length arrived in England, after being long detained by contrary winds in Holland. She is a little too fatigued to put pen to paper yet, and I make bold to conclude her letter begun in Holland, by acquainting you that we hope to have the happiness of seeing Mr. Collins and you, at Salisbury, some time on Wednesday next, unless some circumstance should

happen to detain us, which we do not foresee.—We have had a good passage, but rough, which has made Mrs. Staunton sea-sick; but I hope it will be of use to her health. She was somewhat frighted too; as a French privateer followed us out of Helvoetsluis, and seemed inclined to attack us; so that we were obliged to prepare for an engagement.—The passengers, the gentlemen I mean, were all ranged to arms on the deck; my wife neither wished to return to France, nor to return husbandless to Salisbury, but the privateer put an end to her fears, by quitting us, when he saw us ready for defence.

Mrs. Staunton is now already well, and sorry that I have prevented her telling you, under her own hand, how much she and I are,

my dear madam,
your affectionate and obedient children,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LVI.

Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq.

Charles-street, Berkely-square,
March 19th, 1780,

Dear Sir,

I am to acknowledge, and to thank you for your several letters, of the 27th January, 29th February, and 5th and 9th instant, all which came to my hands within this week past. That of the 27th January was left here by Mr. Scott the day before yesterday.—And now, my dear sir, allow me to express how much I feel obliged to you for your care

and attention in my business, which you have accomplished with an ability and address that I can never do too much justice to.—Believe me, I shall esteem myself infinitely happy in being able to give you the sincerest proofs of my friendship and esteem.

I have been confined to my bed for some time past by a severe fit of illness, which prevented me from writing to you by the last post, and I am very sorry it is not yet in my power to write to you conclusively on your own affair. I have sent three letters to Sir William James, since Monday last, and have been every day promised a satisfactory answer, but none as yet has come to hand. I am however disposed to make great allowances for his situation and that of the other directors, which, at this moment, is certainly very difficult, and may put it out of their power to attend to your business, as much as I wish them to do, but I trust that, in a very short time, the whole will be entirely settled. I am assured, that the last ships dont sail for India before the 20th or 25th of April.—I have written to Madame Du Deffand, and when I see you, will write to such other persons, as you think have a right to expect it from me. Possibly this letter may not reach you before you leave Rotterdam, I address it to you there however at all hazards, and am, with the truest esteem and regard,

dear Sir,

very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

P. S. Lady M. joins me in many compliments to you and Mrs. Staunton.

LVII.

From Richard Burke, esq. (brother to Edm. Burke) to the same.

Plymouth, Aug. 19, 1780.

My dear Sir,

You will perceive by the date, that I am here, and for the second time, on my return from Bodmin. This journey (I am afraid to say *circuit*) has produced to me every thing, which my original views, my former pursuits in life, could have promised to my most sanguine expectations. A new country, still more pleasing, and, in many respects, still more striking, than new; a civil reception in all places; that reception, in many most warm; friendships unchanged by my change of life; and that change urging me to deserve hereafter a particular friendship, which this new situation of mine gave scope to for its exertions. —All these things have had an effect on me, which I cannot describe—which I will not forget: and have made an impression, which no time, I trust, can possibly efface. Indeed, my dear sir, since I lost you, my mind has undergone some strange affections, has felt some violent shocks. You were a plank, to which I clung for the middle part of my strange navigation.— I felt the comfort, in the safety, of that support; but I more than half wished that I had not experienced the aid, when I lost the comfort, of that buoyant principle. Surely, (to drop all metaphor) you do not conceive that I have had any professional difficulties.— Very far from it; you will give me credit for the

nothingness of my expectation, and you will have faith enough in the saving sense of mankind, to believe that such negative expectations met no disappointment. I quitted you at Exeter, and I no more expect to find a *Collins* in every town, than I look for every town to be a *Salisbury*. I have said however, that my journey was very pleasant, and in truth it has been exceedingly pleasant.

Thus far I had proceeded at Plymouth; and no post leaving that town before this day, I have advanced it with myself thus far nearer to Salisbury. *Thus far*, and *this day!* when and where? why, Taunton, 21st of August, Monday morning. I find myself in a situation not new to me—The dating of my letter is suggested to me, by the vacancy in my mind, by my inability to write any thing else.—We have not had any such day as Exeter afforded us, since I lost you. Sufficient good humour continues to be the best feature in the exterior of our company; by some hints, I gather that there is a reasonable quantity of jealousies underneath.

I am but a passenger, and will not willingly ruffle the smooth surface; what is under, appertains not to me, and surely *quod infra*—as well as *quod supra nos* —*nihil ad nos*.—Even thus the middle becomes the best situation. I shall be, God willing, this day at dinner time in Wells; passing through the (to me) vacuum of that city, I mean to be in Bristol, at farthest, on Friday noon, possibly sooner. There I expect some occupation, not in the law, but in the first principles of law-making, in the manufacture of legislators.

Adieu, my dear sir; from Bristol I shall again trouble you, having thoroughly enabled myself to promise, with safety, that my next letter shall be as important as this. Be so good as to present me in the most repectful manner to Mrs. Staunton, to Mr. and Mrs. Collins, and the young gentlemen. Believe me, with great truth,

my dear Sir,

your affectionate, obliged,

and very humble servant,

RICHARD BURKE.

LVIII.

Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. to the same.

Abingdon-street, 15th Sep. 1780.

Dear Sir,

Though I have not yet the authority of franking, I have that of giving you pleasure; as I am sure I shall, by acquainting you that I carried my election at Ipswich triumphantly; by a majority of near a hundred. The expence, no doubt, has been considerable: but economy must repair the breaches made in the conflict of a smartly contested election.

I hope Mrs. Staunton has her health. I beg my respects to her, and am, with much esteem and regard,

dear Sir,

your most affectionately faithful,

and most obedient servant,

THOMAS STAUNTON.

LIX.

Lord Macartney to the same.

Buckingham, Sept. 18th, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I am much obliged to you for the favor of your letter, of the 8th instant, and flattered myself that I should have had it in my power, before this time, to have thanked you for it in person, but having been under the necessity of coming to this part of the country, on very particular business, I am led so far from the Salisbury road, that it will be impossible for me to pay you a visit there as I wished to do; for the time of my absence from London, which I was limited to, is now almost expired. I propose returning there on Thursday or Friday at farthest, and indeed, I find by my last letters, that it will be best for me not to stir from it till my business is decided—Most of the Indians declare against an interloper, as they term me, and are trying to form a strong opposition to my appointment: but I dont think it will signify—I however omit nothing on my part to strengthen myself, and I proceed as if I had every thing to apprehend.—You will allow me, therefore, to recommend to my friends the same alertness, and to request them on no account to slacken their endeavours to serve me—My competitors themselves affect to talk of my success as certain, but would not fail attempting to surprize me, if they found me at all off my guard. I must beg you will get all the persons applied to and secured, whom you mentioned in your letter, together with such

others as may have since occurred to you.—I shall hope to see you as soon as you arrive in London, and beg you will believe me to be, with very sincere regard and esteem,

dear Sir,
most truly your's,
MACARTNEY.

LX.

Mr. (afterwards Sir Arthur) Piggott to the same.

Temple, 1st Jan. 1781.

Dear Sir,

I beg your acceptance of my particular acknowledgments for the obliging mark which I have just received of your attention and regard. Nothing could add to its value; since it is not in your power to convey, with your books, the diligence and sagacity that enabled you to avail yourself of them with so much reputation and success. Be assured that I shall recollect with great pleasure that my collection contains so flattering a testimony, but that I want no inducement to write to you, beside the partiality that leads you to give me the honor of a place in the list of your correspondents.

I have the less reluctance at permitting you to despoil your own library, when I reflect that the situation in which you go to India, entirely supersedes your professional labours, at the same time that it affords you a safe and happy asylum from the persecutions of fortune.

I am just come from paying a visit in the country. Mrs. Piggott has waited for my return to meet me in town, that she may have the pleasure of paying her respects to Mrs. Staunton, which I believe she proposes to do to-morrow. I am, with great regard,

dear Sir,

your most faithful and obedient servant,

A. PIGGOTT.

LXI.

J. Stuart, esq. to the same.

London, Jan. 5th. 1781.

My dear Sir,

I feel it a matter of real concern that a great variety of avocations, essential almost to my existence, have prevented me from enjoying so much of your company as I wished. Mutual friends have long taught me to esteem your worth, and abilities; and I have an earnest desire to cultivate, and deserve your friendship. I do not deal in mere professions, and I trust, that the whole tenour of my character will not contradict this assertion.

My much esteemed, and long tried friend, Mr. Boyd, is impressed with the same sentiments of you as myself; and I hope he will be a bond of union and friendship between us. In him you will experience honor, liberality, and attachment, or I disclaim all connexion with him.

I hope ere long to have the pleasure of seeing you at Madras. But while I remain in this country, as

far as my poor endeavours can go to serve you, or any of your connexions, your command shall be a law with me.

Pray accept, as an honest offering from me, my sincerest wishes for your health and prosperity—and believe me to be,

my dear Sir,
with much respect, and real esteem,
your most obedient humble servant,
J. STUART.

LXII.

Governor William Stuart to the same.

London, 2nd March, 1781.

Dear Sir,

At the solicitation of some particular friends of mine for an introductory letter for the bearer, Mr. Johnston, to my Lord Macartney, with such weight of recommendation as I might use to his lordship, I here take the liberty of entreating that favor from you; and this I do as a double advantage to my friend, as he may thereby receive your protection and good offices, as well as his lordship's, to which I beg leave to recommend him—Lord Macartney had also recommendations of this young gentleman before he left England.

Mr. Johnston has the character of a sensible and intelligent man. His wife is a daughter of the late Lord Napier's, of amiable character. Mr. Johnston goes out a writer to Madras, and his friends are flattered with

the hope that his talents may soon insure his promotion. I wish him success, and your countenance. Health attend you. With my respectful compliments to Lord Macartney,

I remain, dear Sir, &c.

WILLIAM STUART*.

LXIII.

Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. to the same.

Abingdon Street, 3rd March, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I received your favor (dated Swallow Packet, Irish Coast, Feb. 19th) and immediately after, directed and franked your letter for Mrs. Staunton, to

* The above letter laid the foundation of the intimate friendship which afterwards subsisted between Mr. Johnston and Sir George, and which (the Editor has the pleasure to add) still survives in the breasts of their respective sons and representatives.

The son of Mr. J. the present Sir Alexander Johnston, was a few years ago Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in the island of Ceylon, and returned from that important colony in 1817, followed by the blessings of all ranks and classes of its inhabitants, for his unremitting and most successful exertions in promoting their happiness and welfare. In particular, for having obtained for them, by his special intercession, the invaluable privilege of a trial by jury; for having established amongst them schools for the education of children, of every persuasion, on a most liberal system; for having taken the most judicious measures for the gradual abolition of slavery throughout the island; for his anxious desire to promote, by every means in his power, the propagation of christianity generally, without forgetting what was due to each particular denomination; and above all, for what concerned his own immediate province, his enlightened and impartial administration of public justice.

Salisbury, and sent the French ones to the general post.

I am at present far, very far indeed, from being well. My spirits flag prodigiously. The loss of my son and grandson pull at them most incessantly, and in many of my woful hours, it may be said I am beside myself. However, in my lucid intervals, not a moment shall be lost by me, in exerting my best endeavours to execute your commands, not only in respect to Cargin, but in every other instance of your laying them upon,

my dear kinsman,

your faithful and obedient

humble servant,

T. STAUNTON.

LXIV.

The Rev. P. B. Brodie, Rector of Winterslow, to the same.

London, 3rd June, 1781.

Dear Sir,

It is with great pleasure that I now fulfil my promise of writing to you. I congratulate you most sincerely on the birth of your son, and am happy to add that Mrs. Staunton is well. Mr. Collins writes my wife word that your little boy is like our youngest; and Charles informs us, that he is like his aunt Brodie.

We are very anxious in this part of the world about our situation in the east: and we are sometimes apprehensive that Lord Macartney will find no government

to take charge of. I entertain better hopes; but at the same time I cannot but wish that the ferment may not be totally subsided before you and he reach Madras. To put a finishing stroke to a business of such importance, is I hope reserved for him: and I cannot doubt but his conduct on the occasion will amply justify the choice the Company has made.

The *inns* and the *outs* are battling as usual in the House of Commons: but the latter have a great acquisition in Mr. William Pitt, who, they say, bids fair to excel even his father. Lord North however remains omnipotent, and I believe the East-India Company will be sensible of his power.—

—The P. of Wales does not interfere at all in politics.—

I wish you health. I wish you success, and a speedy return, and I am, &c.

P. B. BRODIE.

LXV.

George Leonard Staunton, esq. to his Parents.
(Anno Ætatis, 45.)

Madras, June 25th, 1781.

My dear parents,

After a passage of little more than four months, we arrived three days ago at Madras, where we found all things in confusion and distress, arising from the invasion of the country by a famous Indian prince, named Hyder Ally. The apprehensions of the people are considerable, but their hopes are somewhat revived by the arrival of Lord Macartney,

by whose conduct they depend to be extricated out of their present difficulties.

As his lordship puts his whole confidence in me, you may judge how exceedingly I am employed, but no motive shall prevent me from writing to you by every opportunity.—

I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LXVI.

*Hugh Boyd, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq.**

Superbe, off Nagore, Oct. 21st, 1781.

My dear Sir,

Not ceremoniously or apologisingly, which I know your good sense as well as friendship would equally reject, but in pure and plain fact, I must assure you, that I was extremely sorry I had not the the pleasure of shaking your hand before I left you.—I was most hurriedly busy some little time before I came away;—and when I was coming away, you were abroad with his Lordship: for I sent to enquire.

I wished indeed, beside the pleasure of seeing you, to have mentioned to you a little incident or improvement of it, in my diplomatique; and to have requested you to remind his lordship of it. He expressed his

* This letter is chiefly interesting from the circumstance of the writer of it having been, at one time, believed by many, to have been the author of the Letters of Junius.

intention, the last time I spoke to him on it, of adding to the presents I have for the King of Candia, something considerable—especially valuable arms, if obtainable.—The more I think of the subject, and of what I collect casually from the judgment of persons conversant *in black arts*, the more I am persuaded of the essential importance of keeping up this custom respectably: especially in this *novel* situation I am to try; where it is the more necessary to impress the imaginations of our new acquaintances as favorably as possible.—In the way of *arms*, our friend Sydenham would be a good ally:—in all other sciences and arts, *Permaul* I think is professor-general. There is a man, who was with him one day at the fort, who has clocks of very shewy workmanship.

Excuse the trouble I give you in these mechanical matters.—I don't rely so much on the prerogative even of the king of Candia to justify them, as on the amicable plea of friendly liberty—for their admission *into court.*

You see the detail of our incipient successes; and I will not trouble you with repetition. But the aspect of affairs is very favorable indeed—*sub Jove fausto*, if he does not exhibit a monsoon-masquerade this year, there can be little doubt of complete success.

The admiral enquired particularly for you. If he were beside me, he would send you very heartily his best respects. I will for him—and am always,

my dear Sir,

and very sincerely, yours, &c.

Hugh Boyd.

LXVII.

Edmund Burke, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq.

Charles Street, Dec. 3rd, 1781.

My dear Sir,

Mr. Murphy will have the honor of paying his respects to you with this. He is a relation of an old and worthy friend of mine, who, I believe, was formerly known in some degree to Lord Macartney. That friend of his is dead: a brother of his, who was a captain in the East India Company's service, is dead too. He left effects to a considerable value, consisting in loans to the great natives of the country, and other demands and goods. He conceives that his brother has made a will, which is secreted.—Whatever his case and his vouchers may be, may I request of you that you will give him the best advice and assistance in your power. I shall take your protection to this poor gentleman, as a very great favor. I have written to you, to Lord Macartney, and Mr. Boyd; my brother too has written to you by our friend Dunkin. I do not think it pleasant, if I had even sufficient leisure, to trouble you on the melancholy detail of our public affairs. The prints will inform you of them but too well. Mrs. Burke, my brother, and son, all join me in most sincere regards to yourself, and Mr. Boyd, with all wishes to Lord Macartney, for honor and success in his government,

I have the honor to be, dear Sir,
your most obedient humble servant,
Edm. Burke.

LXVIII.

Geo. Leo. Staunton, esq. to Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P.

Fort St. George, Jan. 28, 1782.

My dear Sir,

A very few days ago I received the favor of two letters from you over-land.

The death of my father shocked me the more, that I thought I had left him some months before, [although in his eightieth year] in much apparent health.

Your letter was the only account I have had of Mrs. Staunton's delivery. Indeed, I much thank you for your kind attention. It is my wish to be able to introduce the little boy to his father's friend and kinsman, in Abingdon Street. My stay will not be many years in India; and your health depends only upon a little fortitude of your own mind.

—As to public affairs here, they are in the same uncertain, and, I fear, dangerous state, with the rest of the British Empire. It is in vain that a few men of integrity and real patriotism are employed, and busy in doing all the good, and averting all the evil, in their power; their efforts will be counteracted by a bad and ruinous system. If we have not a peace soon with the powers of this country, we must, as a state, be ruined. The greatest obstacle to it, is the mistrust arising from the frequent and wanton breach of former engagements, so that we have as little reputation remaining here as in Europe*.

* It is almost needless to advert to the splendid contrast which the present state of British India affords, to the just but melancholy picture

I continue, dear Sir, in the warmest attachment and wishes for your health and comfort, your's, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LXIX.

The same to Lord Macartney.

Calcutta, Feb. 24, 1782.

My Lord,

Though Captain Lewis and I left the Valentine the 22nd, in the mouth of the river Hoogly, we did not get up as high as Calcutta till very late next evening, and went ashore at Mr. Macpherson's country house, opposite to Calcutta. He received me with great cheerfulness and welcome; and spoke of your lordship in the strongest terms of affection and esteem. The next morning being Sunday, he conducted me to Mr. Hastings's country house; and, as I went in Mr. Macpherson's carriage, he told me, that he was particularly glad that your lordship had sent me, as in addition to the former motives which operated on his mind, in advising such a mission some time ago, some late circumstances had occurred, which rendered it still more necessary.—Mr. Hastings, he said, was very able and well disposed; and, in general, his sentiments were such that he, Mr. Macpherson, would support him; that there was nothing but the most perfect cordiality between every mem-

here drawn, of its condition in the year 1781.—It is to the honorable example of such men as Lord Macartney and Sir George, that much of this improvement may, in the first instance, be attributed.

ber of the board. It was however to be acknowledged that Mr. Hastings had suffered his temper to be somewhat affected by the long opposition he had met in council here; that he is somewhat irritable, for which Mr. Macpherson is willing to make the more allowance, that he thinks it almost wonderful he should have preserved any temper.—

I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LXX.

The same to John Squire, esq.

Madras, Nov. 6, 1782.

Allow me, my dear Sir, to present you with my acknowledgments for the agreeable intelligence you were so polite as to convey to me. It would be highly gratifying if I had any thing to offer to you, that was likely to produce you pleasure in return. But what pleasing subject can the desolated Carnatic afford? and to enlarge on its distresses would but give you pain. It is true, for a time they were suspended, by our successes against the Dutch; but since that period our army has done but little, and Hyder continues his depredation, almost without apprehension, and without mercy. The pleasing hopes we entertained on Sir R. B——'s arrival have also failed us. Our unfortunate admiral, who lost us Trincomalay by being three days too late, has now, to mend the matter, prevented a junction, and every good consequence of so noble a

reinforcement, by sailing three days too soon, which he persisted in doing, in spite of every argument that could be urged against it. So that all this extended coast is left defenceless and exposed to the attacks of the enemy, and Sir Richard, who is arrived, instead of defending us, will find it sufficiently difficult perhaps to effect a junction with the other fleet.

Amidst these public calamities, it is not reasonable to expect that private advantages can be either very considerable or very numerous. So that your obliging wishes for my success will not probably be soon accomplished; but they are not the less kind, or less demand my thanks. I entreat you will accept of them, and at the same time I beg leave to offer my acknowledgments to Mrs. S. for her polite congratulations.

Believe me, Sir, to be, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LXXI.

The same to Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Staunton.

Madras, Nov. 6, 1782.

My dearest Jane,

Your letters, down to the 23d of April, poured balm upon my heart. They are my companions and my comfort. They are well written, easy, natural, and unaffected. You need not be ashamed of your style to any correspondent. You are right to take care of it, and to cultivate that talent, because, like music, you cultivate it with success.—

Your advice is just on every occasion; and I not only take it in good part, but in a grateful part, and I shall give you the best proof of my relishing it, by my following it. There is indeed the greater necessity of being careful of what I may get, as I am not likely to get much; unless I stooped to pick it up in a manner of which I should afterwards be ashamed: and that I take to be too dear a purchase, even for wealth. Perhaps I may have soon the happiness of your being a witness of my conduct here; for I take for granted, that you will accompany Lady Macartney, if she should come here; for wishing which I have therefore a double motive. An account is already received here of the arrival of the Swallow packet home; and I have had an answer over-land to a letter I wrote last January, that is, in less than nine months.

If the change in administration had happened before I left England, it is possible I might not have come here. Perhaps my friends may think of me when I shall return to them: in the mean time they are kind enough to write to me; at least Mr. Edmund and Mr. Richard Burke have each of them done so. Your father will thus have through me a friend at the treasury.—

I am, &c.

George Leonard Staunton.

LXXII.

Samuel Johnston, esq. to Geo. Leonard Staunton, esq.

Calcutta, 14th Jan. 1783.

My dear Sir,

I have already written to you a few lines by this conveyance.—

—If my information is correct, the Supreme Board have resolved, that the Carnatic is to be immediately restored to the Nabob. If so, I hope in God his lordship will not obey their orders, which orders must prove the most destructive to the Company's interests, and lower his consequence in the eye of every Black power, as well as European, in this country.

I cannot help seeing this conduct in the most reprehensible light, nor can I prevent myself from thus exclaiming against it to you.—

—Accept Mrs. Johnston's very affectionate wishes, and believe me, with the most perfect regard,

your sincere and faithful servant,

SAML. JOHNSTON.

LXXIII.

(Official.)

J. Hudleston, esq. to the same.

Fort St. George, July 8, 1783.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the President and Select Committee to furnish you with the enclosed extract from their minutes of the

7th instant, upon your joint letter with Mr. Sadleir of the 2nd, giving an account of your late negotiation with the Marquis de Bussy; agreeably to which resolution, I have now the honor to convey to you the thanks and acknowledgments of the Select Committee for your prudent conduct, and eminent services upon that occasion.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
Sir,
your most obedient humble servant,
I. HUDLESTON, Secretary.

LXXIV.

Lord Macartney to the Right Hon. C. J. Fox.

Fort St. George, Aug. 5th, 1783.

My dear Charles,

I know not in what situation this letter will find you, whether in office, or out of office. But, in any situation, your personal weight and opinion will have a more decisive influence than those of any other individual. From the sentiments you have expressed relative to this part of the world, it appears that you are fully impressed with the value and importance of our Indian empire: but I fear there are few besides, who either feel its value and importance, or feeling them, will give sufficient attention to the subject. Should it however be much longer neglected, be assured that our possessions here will in a few years slip from us: and you will then discover, that the information given about India, has been as deceitful as

that which was swallowed so long from America.—The only chance of preserving it, is the employment of the ablest and honestest men that can be found; and, allow me to add, that they should be chosen, not among the common run what are called Company's servants, but any, the best informed, enlarged and liberal-minded men.

You all, I dare say, must be sensible that the old system cannot answer any longer, and that what was adapted to the regulation of mere commercial factories, cannot now suit the administration of a great empire. There may be found some among the Company's servants that are not ill qualified for continuing in office here, but the number is small. The man, in my opinion, the most capable of rendering essential service to the state in India, is Mr. Staunton, who came with me from England, and is still here. He is a gentleman of very good family, nearly related to old Mr. Staunton, the member for Ipswich, of a liberal education, enlarged mind, uncommon industry and information, and one of the best head-pieces I have ever met with. He is withal a man of strict honor, and uncorruptible integrity, and of moderate views. Of these points I can speak with more precision and certainty than any man; and if I could not, you may rest assured, I would not recommend him with the warmth which I do.

I trust then, that you will for my sake, and for that of the public, not let slip any occasion that may offer, or that you can make, for giving Mr. Staunton such a respectable appointment in this part of the world, as may enable him to do, what I know he will do, the

most essential service to his country, and honor to his employers. I beg leave to observe to you, that Mr. Staunton was attorney-general of Grenada, and in that line qualified for the highest office in India, but I think you may direct his abilities on a more enlarged political scale. What a treasure would such a man be to you, if you are now a minister!

Adieu, my dear Charles. I must refer you to our public dispatches for the *true, undisguised* state of this settlement. A private letter would give you but a very inadequate idea of our affairs.—I am, &c.

MACARTNEY.

LXXV.

Relation of the Arrest of Major General Stuart.

Sept. 17th, 1783.

Major General Stuart, the same person, who when Colonel Stuart, effected the subversion of the government of Lord Pigot, being supposed to have formed the same design in relation to that of Lord Macartney; and matters coming to a crisis, and information being given that the general was going to issue orders to the troops, it appeared that the public safety and tranquillity depended on the instantaneous determination to adopt and the celerity and success in executing the measure of securing his person before his orders could be issued, or those orders could reach their destination. He had left the Fort in order to be from under the power of the governor, and to be near at hand to put himself at the head of the troops; he was accompanied

by the confidential person through whom, on particular occasions, instead of the adjutant-general of the army, he issued his orders to the troops. He was surrounded by his secretary and aid-de-camps, and he had a guard at his house. The sentence of his dimission was past that morning upon him in his presence, and he suffered so much of his designs to escape him before his judges, as to avow to them that he intended to dispute their sentence.

It was not to be expected that such a man, at such a time, with a knowledge of his designs being discovered, would be unmindful of the steps that might be taken against him; there was not a moment to spare, either for collecting a sufficient force to overawe resistance, or even for giving particular instructions to the officer commanding the party, how to conduct the undertaking. During the time which might be thus consumed, the general's orders might be issued. He might himself have set out for camp. Notice might have reached him of what was going forward. Thus situated, the presidency requested the assistance of Mr. Staunton, a confidential servant of the government, and sworn in the Select Committee; who having come out to India with Lord Macartney, with the knowledge and consent of the Court of Directors, had lately executed a delicate and important commission to the Marquis de Bussy. The present commission of a different nature, though no less delicate or difficult, was confided to him, by the following determination of the board.

"The president therefore thought it necessary to direct the adjutant of the garrison, Lieutenant Gomond, with a party, to be ready to secure the person of General Stuart, and remove him to the Fort, in order to prevent the confusion and possible subversion of government, that might be the consequence of General Stuart's being left at liberty to act agreeably to his declaration. The president also requested Mr. Staunton, on whom the committee can from experience of his abilities and discretion place entire confidence, to be in readiness to accompany Lieutenant Gomond. The committee unanimously approve and agree to the measure of arresting the person of General Stuart, from a conviction, on the strongest grounds, that it is absolutely necessary for the peace and safety of the settlement; and the committee approve of the steps which the president has taken to accomplish that purpose, and empower his lordship, at this critical moment, to take any other precautions, that he may judge necessary for the public safety."

Extract from the Minutes.

It was not at so critical a moment that Mr. Staunton was to decline a service, in which he was thought essential, on account of the unpleasantness or hazard that might attend it. He accompanied Lieutenant Gomond. A few sepoys were taken from the main-guard; and these were augmented from the guard at the Company's garden, to the number of sixty-six in the whole, with Lieutenant Cooke, who happened to be there.—

Orders were sent to Captain Hughes, to collect his battalion and follow, but with little hope of his being able to arrive in time. Lieutenants Gomond and Cooke and Mr. Staunton, and Mr. Walker, a gentleman employed in the secretary's office, then proceeded to the general's house.

It was about eight in the evening. The lights were directed as usual to precede their carriage. Mr. Cooke and the sepoys stopped at the outer gate. Mr. Gomond and Mr. Staunton were not distinguished by the sentinels from common visitors; and without difficulty ascended to the apartment, where General Stuart appeared busily employed in drawing out orders, with Mr. Close his secretary, Mr. Smart his aid-de-camp, and Major Grattan, through whom his orders were to be issued to the troops. Lieutenant Gomond announced his errand, which was confirmed by Mr. Staunton. It came upon the general somewhat sooner than he expected; he however made objections, said he would obey the arrest at a future time, and at length seemed determined to refuse obedience to it. Mr. Gomond saw the necessity of calling up the sepoys, and requested Mr. Staunton to do so. A dozen of them at most were then at hand, having been brought forward by Mr. Walker. Mr. Staunton led them up stairs with their bayonets fixed, and his sword drawn in his hand. It was a scene little understood either by these sepoys, or by those which were there to guard the general; as it was new to both.

On Mr. Staunton's return, thus accompanied, into the apartment, Major Grattan advanced towards him, and

with a tone of firmness mixed with reproach, asked him if it was decent; and added, that he, Mr. Staunton, should answer for such proceedings. It was not perfectly easy to judge how far Major Grattan meant to carry his resistance to those proceedings; or how far such resistance might be successful. The number of Europeans was equally few on both sides. The part that would be taken in such a conflict by the sepoys, either above or below stairs, depended on the momentary impression that would be made upon their minds. They had been accustomed to consider, and respect, and obey the general, as their supreme commander. His secretary spoke their language fluently, and his aid-de-camp was in the habit of commanding them. An exertion of the moment by the general might have transformed them into his protectors, if a contrary exertion had not ensured their steadiness to their duty. Mr. Staunton assumed a loud and authoritative tone: He replied with the asperity which reproach excites, to the reproach of Major Grattan; and he stood with his sword still drawn, affecting the appearance of command before the astonished sepoys. Lieutenant Gomond, with equal coolness and firmness, repeated to the general, that he must proceed to execute his commission. The inward conciousness of rectitude sometimes supplies resources and courage that are successful in the most sudden and imminent necessities. But the general employed himself in disposing of his papers, and in arguing on the point of law with Lieutenant Gomond, as he had produced no written order; and after having taken down the names of

Messieurs Gomond, Staunton, Walker, and Cooke, as concerned in the arrest, he insisted on being removed from his seat, as ascertaining the personal force employed against him; upon which Lieutenant Gomond and a sepoy or two, without arms, approached and touched him, and he then was assisted by his own servants, and carried without difficulty to the Fort, employing himself in the way in tearing into minute pieces those papers and orders which he foresaw might ascertain his guilt.

LXXVI.

Governor and Council of Madras to the Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

Fort St. George, 30th Sept. 1783.

Hon. Sirs,

131. We must observe likewise, that we have consulted your advantage in availing ourselves of the services of Mr. Staunton, who, under your sanction, came out as Secretary to your President of Fort St. George, and who previous to his departure from England entered into covenants, and gave security to the same purport as any of your servants.

132. In employing him particularly in the late critical embassy to the Marquis de Bussy, we recollected the instance of the Rev. Mr. Palk, who, on a like important emergency, was, from like motives, taken from the line of his own profession, to be employed in your political concerns.

133. In our proceedings of the 23d instant, you will find recorded a minute of Mr. Sadleir, on the subject of the situation and services of Mr. Staunton, with minutes in consequence from all the other members of your Select Committee, from whence you will perceive the high sense we entertain of the services and conduct of that gentleman.

Mr. Sadleir's Minute.

Mr. Sadleir, upon the perusal of the minutes relative to the deputation sent to Cuddalore, not only takes occasion to remark, that Mr. Staunton, who was joined with him in that commission, acquitted himself of it with propriety and effect; but thinks it an act of justice to add, that the material assistance and services, which Mr. Staunton has rendered to the Company, in the political, civil, and legal departments of this presidency for these last two years, in difficult and complicated transactions, deserve and require acknowledgment and recompence.

Mr. Sadleir thinks it right to mention some peculiarities of situation to which Mr. Staunton is subjected, arising from his public station, and his faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him. Mr. Staunton, though not bred a servant of the Company, came in his present station to India, with the knowledge and sanction of the Court of Directors, and is bound by covenants which preclude him from the acceptance of presents, and perquisites, and the integrity of his conduct to the best of Mr. Sadleir's knowledge and belief,

has removed even the suspicion of his having transgressed these covenants; while it is likely, that in the profession of the law, in which he rose to be his majesty's attorney-general of Grenada, he might have acquired a considerable fortune in this country. Mr. Sadleir thinks Mr. Staunton's case so peculiarly hard, precluded as he is by the rules of the service, from holding any lucrative office, precluded too by his station from the exercise of his talents to his own advantage, and by his covenants and rectitude, from the acceptance of presents and perquisites, that Mr. Sadleir cannot help recommending it to the consideration of the right honorable the President, and to the Company.

Fort St. George, 20th Sept. 1783.

ANTH. SADLEIR.

Mr. Davidson's Minute.

20th Sep, 1783.

Mr. Davidson is happy in having an opportunity of coinciding entirely with Mr. Sadleir, in his opinion of Mr. Staunton; being thoroughly convinced of his distinguished ability in the political, civil, and legal departments of the presidency. Mr. Sadleir has expressed himself so properly, and so fully on the subject, that Mr. Davidson has only further to add, that he fully approves of Mr. Sadleir's minute.

ALEX. DAVIDSON.

Mr. Williams's Minute.

The very eminent integrity, and distinguished ability shewn by Mr. Staunton during an arduous administration, replete with a variety of transactions, complicate in themselves, difficult to accomplish, and I believe unequalled by any on our records, certainly merit the praise bestowed on this gentleman by Mr. Sadleir; and I am happy it is in my power, previous to my departure for the circuit, to express my entire approbation of his conduct, either in a civil or political light; in expectation a conduct so deserving will not only merit the attention and consideration of this committee, but of the Court of Directors, our honorable employers. These being my sentiments, I can only say further, that Mr. Sadleir's minute, founded on Mr. Staunton's known abilities and acknowledged services, is very just and proper, and consequently meets with my approbation.

20th Sept. 1783.

M. Williams.

The President's Minute.

The president, at whose request Mr. Staunton has devoted his whole time to the affairs and welfare of the Company, sees with very great pleasure the expressions of the sense entertained by the other members of the government of that gentleman's services and conduct.

The president relies on the good effect of what is thus asserted with strict truth and justice; and upon such respectable, as well as unanimous testimony.

Macartney.

LXXVII.

Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq.*

Fort St. George, Nov. 26th, 1783.

My dear Staunton,

Thank you a thousand times, for your two letters of the 22nd and 23rd, enclosing the draft. Your reasoning is conclusive with me, and it behoves you and Mr. Sadleir to put no confidence whatever in Tippoo, that it may be in his power to abuse. Certainly he ought to give up our prisoners, before we consent to the delivery of Mangalore or the other places on the Malabar coast. The refusal seems little short of a declaration of taking every advantage, and making the most of it. Both my colleagues are clearly of that opinion.—You will in consequence receive a letter from me addressed to you and your colleague, which, without having any reference to what you communicated to me, marks strongly the line that it is expected you will take.

My mind is much affected by the state of things at present. A scarcity of money and of provisions, and every difficulty arising from these circumstances, are every moment before my eyes, and occasion very unpleasant sensations.—Peace will alleviate them, and for that object I look chiefly to your address. I feel for your situation; but, if you have health, I know

* This and six of the following letters were selected from Mr. Staunton's correspondence with Lord Macartney, while upon his mission to negotiate peace with Tippoo—a considerable portion is in cypher.

you will surmount every obstacle:—so I must, in all matters of business, rely solely upon you. Be his fancies and vagaries what they may, I would not for a million, that you were not near at his elbow.—Adieu

ever your's,

MACARTNEY.

LXXVIII.

The same to the same.

Fort St. George, Nov. 27, 1783.

Dear Staunton,

Since writing my letter of yesterday, I received yours of the 24th, communicating the conduct of your colleague. It appeared to me so unjustifiable, so dangerous, that not a moment was to be lost in determining upon it. I therefore in confidence informed Mr. D. and Gen. L. of the whole, in consequence of which, the letter of this day to you and Mr. Sadleir was agreed upon, and I drafted it immediately. You will please to observe, that every thing relative to the mission, is kept in a book apart, and not mixed with the other proceedings. Your conduct will do you immortal honor, and that of your colleague would justify us in immediately removing him, if in our circumstances it could be contrived without more inconvenience, than his continuance.—By our letter, we have put it out of his power to do further positive mischief; but I have it strongly in my mind to make one step more. I shall however wait

till I hear from you your sentiments, before I propose the execution of my idea.—What do you think of our sending Hudleston to join you as a third in the commission, and that the majority should decide; he could proceed within two or three days after the receipt of your answer.

Since I begun this letter, your packet of the 25th is arrived, with the enclosures. It disposes me still more strongly towards the measure, but I cannot for a moment entertain the idea of your retiring. Upon your judgment, address, and integrity, I solely rely, for the happy accomplishment of this business, on which, not only my reputation and future lot of life may depend, but the salvation of the British empire in this part of the world.—I shall communicate to my colleagues what you have written to them relative to yourself, not as an official paper to be entered or decided upon, but merely to shew them the situation of their affairs in your quarter.—I am &c.

MACARTNEY.

LXXIX.

Peter Walker, esq. to Mrs. (afterwards Lady) Staunton.

Madras, Dec. 3, 1783.

Madam,

The Crocodile sailing for Bombay, and from thence, as is expected, for England, affords an opportunity of writing to you, which Mr. Staunton would not have omitted, had he been here. In his absence I take the liberty to inform you, that a peace

having been begun between the English and Tippoo, the successor of Hyder Ally, it was thought proper by this government, that Mr. Staunton, and Mr. Sadleir, the second in the council, should go to his court to negotiate such parts of the treaty as were not yet completed, and finally to settle the whole. Accordingly, on the ninth of last month, (November) those gentlemen left the presidency, accompanied with aides-de-camp, guards, a numerous train of attendants and followers, and other marks of embassadorial dignity.—It is now upwards of three weeks since they left us, and they have not yet reached the end of their journey, which is to terminate at Seringapatam, the capital of Tippoo's dominions, distant about four hundred miles west from hence. We have already felt the good effects of their mission, the enemy having agreed to withdraw their troops from the Carnatic, and to leave us in quiet possession of our former territories. The mode the gentlemen make use of in travelling is by palanquins, a kind of couch, carried by four men, in which you either sit, or lie reclined; there are other sorts for sitting only, in every respect similar to our sedan chairs. Of each of these kinds Mr. Staunton has one, besides two horses on which I find he sometimes takes the air.

I have frequently the pleasure of his letters on his route: of one of them I take the liberty to enclose a copy, which is very descriptive of the country they are passing through, and their manner of passing it.—By every account, I can get at, I have the satisfaction to assure you, that his health continues unimpaired:

and the air, and exercise, and change of scene, incident to the journey, seem, if I may judge from his letters, to have given him a flow of spirits, which he did not always enjoy at Madras. His want of exercise, and his constant and close confinement to business here, were so different from the way of life he had been used to in Grenada, that he had not that health and spirits he used to enjoy there. To which indeed the regret of the cheerfulness, the neatness, the conveniences and the attentions of the *Cottage*, may not in some degree fail to contribute; for I can with truth assure you that there are no *cottages* near Madras.—As it will take up more than a week still to complete his journey, and the negotiation will take up a month longer, it is supposed; we cannot expect to have the pleasure of seeing him back till the end of January. In the mean time, should any opportunity offer for England, I certainly shall take care to forward to you the best intelligence I shall be able to collect of him; and I hope his absence and the fatigues of his journey will be fully made up to him; not only indeed in the credit and success that will attend it, but I hope too, in more substantial advantage.

Should your curiosity ever lead you to enquire after the fate of a very obscure individual, you will excuse my adding that, after a peregrination of upwards of eighteen months, in the course of which we touched at a number of wild places, were driven by contrary winds to the coast of Arabia Felix, and detained for several months at Bombay, I arrived here on the 16th of August, last year. Mr. Staunton received me with

that warmth of friendship, of which I have experienced so many instances; and, under his protection, Lord Macartney has been pleased to place me in his family. My time therefore now, instead of being employed in copying law papers, is taken up in transcribing letters and political writings, but in every other respect I continue just the same—I am sure I do, in the gratitude and friendship I feel for Mr. Staunton, and in the real esteem and respect, with which I shall ever remain,

Madam,

Your ever faithful,

and much obliged servant,

PETER WALKER.

LXXX.

Lord Macartney to George Leonard Staunton, esq.

Fort St. George, Dec. 27, 1783.

Dear Staunton,

It is some days since I have written to you, having been prevented by a variety of circumstances, rheumatism, gout, christmas holidays, and a thousand indispensable avocations. In short, my dear friend, I am really worn down with distempers and fatigue. For God's sake, therefore, make a good peace as fast as you can, and return to us.—We received your official packets, and the enclosures of the 20th instant, and I have regularly received yours of several dates, the last of which is the 21st, enclosing Tippoo's letters to you, of the 10th December.—

I am ever yours,

MACARTNEY.

LXXXI.

The same to the same.

Fort St. George, 29th Dec. 1783.

My dear Staunton,

I am to thank you for your several letters, the last of which was of the 23d instant.—What you say, with regard to the difficulty of negotiation, on account of one of your colleagues, is very just indeed, but I trust it will be got over. I hope that nothing I write to you will give the least uneasiness—In the anxiety of my mind, and the constant hurry of writing, it is impossible for me to express myself guardedly or correctly; you ought to know me, and to know that I dont wish or mean to throw embarrassments of any kind in the way, by hinting censure or dissatisfaction; for you are the last man in the world for whom it is likely I should feel either, and I am therefore quite grieved that Mr. Hudleston should have mentioned to you any little trifling conversation about so young a man, as Mr. Jackson, being sent to Seid Saib, &c.—or that you should take the trouble of entering into a discussion about it.—I know how unnecessary it is to say any thing to you, now, by way of instruction; you will do for the best, and no more can be expected from any man.

A ship sails for Bombay to-morrow, by which we forward a copy of the Bengal dispatch of the 14th November, with all the enclosures—and an account of your progress so far, &c. &c. Adieu, ever your's,

MACARTNEY.

LXXXII.

Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P. to Geo. L. Staunton, esq.

Abingdon Street, 1st Jan. 1784.

Dear Sir,

I begin the year agreeably, by thus acquainting you, that your favour, dated 25th March, 1783, with the papers it was inclosed in, came safe to hand. All gouty as I am, and confined to my house, I was just able to peruse them (or the greatest part of them), and I must be stupidity itself, if I had been without relish, and unfeeling, of the noble sentiments and elegant style of your excellent friend, the president of Madras, which almost every sheet of them contains.

I hope worthy Lord Macartney has his health.—Mr. Fox made an affectionate and honorable mention of his lordship, in the House of Commons, when he introduced the East-India Bill, which passed that house triumphantly, but was thrown out by the Lords. This unexpected and unpropitious event has occasioned a change in the ministry. The head of the present (Mr Pitt, not yet twenty-four years old, as I hear) is constituted first Lord of the Treasury, as well as Chancellor of the Exchequer.—

— I must not conclude this, before I present Mrs. Peck's and my daughter's respects to you, with the most affectionate regards of,

my dear Sir,
your faithful and obedient servant,
Thomas Staunton.

LXXXIII.

Lord Macartney to the same.

Fort St. George, Feb. 9th, 1784.

My dear Sir,

I have this day received your letter of the 30th past. It is three months since you left us, and so many untoward accidents have happened within that space, that I much fear for the success of your mission; and yet if it fails, I know not how it will be possible to carry on the war. We have little expectation of supplies from Bengal. Their new treaty with Scindia, I look upon as little better than moon-shine. He is at an immense distance, and is engaged in objects of much more consequence to him, than our quarrel with Tippoo. We know not what the intentions of the Marrhattas are, and as little of those of the Soubah. We are interdicted by Bengal, you know, from negotiating with the latter; and as to the former, I mean the government of Poonah, I dont find that there is any settled intercourse between them and Calcutta. If there be, it has never been communicated to us. The Soubah is preparing to take the field, but with what intention I know not. It is however confidently said by many, that his disposition is by no means friendly to us.

The French have vakeels both at Hydrabad and Poonah, and there is a vakeel from Poonah now at Pondicherry. We may expect the definitive treaty [between Great Britian and France] very quickly, and with it a large body of French troops from the Cape and the islands. What airs they will give themselves

and what trouble they will be disposed to give us, I need not hint to you who know them so well; but if the war continues, I foresee the most serious mischief from them, not because it would be their interest at this time to embroil us, but because a thousand other circumstances would lead them to it. I feel infinitely for your present situation, surrounded as you are by much irritable matter, which nothing, I know, but your patience and calmness can prevent from ruining. I am not without apprehension of your difficulties being increased by the new commissioners from Bombay. If a safe peace can be obtained upon fair and honorable terms, it is preferable to the most brilliant war—but, if it appears to you that Tippoo is not sincere, and that he is disposed, which I suspect, to protract the negotiation into the Monsoon, no time should be lost in acquainting us, Colonel Fullarton, and General M' Leod; that the push may be made without delay, at the same moment. A second stoppage of the Tappals, will be considered by us as an hostility.—Seid Saib has within these two days, received a very considerable reinforcement here, and a greater is expected.—There seems now to be little appearance of his leaving the Carnatic. The Vintaguerry Raja complains much that Kumneer ud Deen has taken possession of some of his villages, and committed several hostilities in his Jaghire of Canongerry—In short, the conduct of Tippoo's people all round seems to indicate that they don't look upon peace as likely to ensue.—You will mention the principal circumstances of this letter to Mr. Sadleir and Mr. Hudleston, &c. as communicated

to you for their immediate information; without delaying till a committee can be assembled for the arrangement of a formal official letter. Be so good as to acknowledge regularly the letters you receive from me, private as well as public—I must request also that you will write regularly to M' Leod and Fullarton.

Adieu, my dear sir,

very truly yours,

M.

LXXXIV.

The same to the same.

Fort St. George, Feb. 21, 1784.

My dear Staunton,

I have received four several letters, the last of which is of the 10th instant, covering the commissioners circular paper.—

—I am really very uneasy at the situation of things with Tippoo; for nothing but a peace, or a signal advantage by Fullarton, in case of war, can relieve us. For God's sake, act with decision. If you and one of your colleagues agree, the third is a cypher, and can do no mischief, if you are peremptory—The vakeels and Tippoo seem to have forgot that he can do nothing of himself—adieu—I look most anxiously for favorable news from you—I think really if this business fails, I shall not survive it.

M———.

LXXXV.

The same to the same.

Fort St. George, 1st March, 1784.

My dear Staunton,

In my letter of yesterday, I sent you the vakeel's last letter to me of the 15th ultimo—and now enclose to you my answer. Tippoo's answer to the memorial of the commissioners is merely recriminatory.—His charges are ill founded, and ours are true; but as he may possibly think his honor concerned to support what he has once asserted, as much as ours is to maintain what we have said in answer, I know not how the business can proceed, unless some mutual agreement be made as to as little retrospect as possible.—You have made specific demands preparatory to the final conclusion of any treaty, and informed Tippoo of the terms on which peace may be made.—In my letters to Tippoo and the vakeels, what you have done is strongly avowed and supported—your plan is equitable, and therefore needs not to be altered. If Tippoo wishes peace, he can have no objection to that plan.—If not, it would be unwise in us to give him any opening for acting as he has done in the case of Mangalore.——The account of his with-holding a boat, of detaining Mr. Fonblanque, and suffering the escort from Colonel Campbell to be cut off, are so contrary to all faith, policy, and common sense, that perhaps, if peace were really made, we should even then have little less to apprehend from him than during an open war—But I am rambling into a subject

which is probably terminated before this time—and in truth I am very ill calculated at present to write upon any,for I am sick, sick at heart—your letters of yesterday have not been a cordial—Bengal has begun again to plague us with letters of reproach—but in such a manner as to give us every advantage we can wish.

Adieu, ever yours,

MACARTNEY.

LXXXVI.

Geo. L. Staunton, esq. to Thomas Staunton, esq. M. P.
(Anno Ætatis 47.)

Tellicherry, March 18, 1784.

Dear Sir,

My last letter to you was from Cuddalore, on the eastern coast of the peninsula of India, where I was sent to settle a cessation of hostilities with Monsieur de Bussy and Monsieur Suffrein, on the first private intelligence that was received of the approach of peace in Europe; and which cessation was critically necessary to save our army, after its supplies were cut off, in consequence of eighteen British ships of the line, in complete order, flying before fifteen French ships, in a shattered condition.—My present letter is from the western coast of the same peninsula, where I was likewise sent to settle peace with Tippoo Sultaun, who has more ambition, more art, and more means, than his father, Hyder Ali, ever possessed. Peace took place the 11th instant; but,

with a man of so little scruple as Tippoo, it is not likely to be maintained longer than he will think it not his interest to break it. In the first of these missions I had one colleague; and in the latter, two; for not being bred in the Company's service, I am unworthy to be trusted alone.—

—The Swallow packet brought me a letter from you, which as you may easily conceive, gave me great satisfaction, and the greater as I approach the period of my return to Europe, my prospect being then so much the more certain of seeing you again: and if I can now and then beguile you of a melancholy hour, it will be to me an hour of the greatest enjoyment; being with the warmest attachment,

most sincerely yours,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

LXXXVII.

Lord Macartney to the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Fort St. George, 28th July, 1784.

Hon. Sirs,

—The particulars of that conduct (relating to the government of Fort St. George, during Lord Macartney's administration) will be fully and faithfully related to you by the bearer of this letter, who, though not bred in your service, has been found from his knowledge and talents necessary to be employed in it, not only on a private commission to represent the state of this presidency to that of Bengal, but also on the

public and critical occasions of settling the cessation of hostilities with the French, and negociating the peace with Tippoo, as well as in affording the chief assistance I have received in the course of my administration here.

He has in every situation rigidly adhered to the covenants he has entered into with the Company; and my colleagues, however they may have occasionally differed in other respects, have been forward and unanimous in their expressions, as appears by the records, of the sense they entertain of his integrity and public services; and as I have not been able to reward him here, I request if my labours have any claim upon the Company, they may be added to his own, in proportioning the rewards you will be pleased to confer upon him.

LXXXVIII.

The President and Select Committee of Fort St. George to the Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

Fort St. George, July 28th, 1784.

Hon. Sirs,

21. Upon all (transactions relative to the Company's affairs on the coast of Coromandel) we can with confidence refer you to Mr. Staunton, for the fullest information.

22. In a former address we took occasion to make mention of the merit of Mr. Staunton, and of the able assistance which this government had derived from his

distinguished talents in every branch of its administration; but we feel ourselves now more particularly called upon to express our sense of his eminent services, and the still higher sense we entertain of the strict integrity which has uniformly marked his conduct, in a situation which presented the greatest temptations to deviate from it.

23. These talents and integrity, which have already been devoted to the Company during the course of three arduous years, give Mr. Staunton an undoubted claim to your favour; and joined to the knowledge which he has acquired in that time, they qualify him to fill any station of trust and importance in your service, and to bear a share in those disinterested labors and exertions, which will be found indispensably necessary to the retrieval of your affairs, if to retrieve them be yet attainable.

LXXXIX.

Lord Macartney to the Right Hon. C. J. Fox.

Fort St. George, July 28, 1784.

Dear Charles,

In a letter, which I wrote to you some months since, I took the liberty of particularly mentioning to you Mr. Staunton, as a gentleman, for whom I had a very high value. He is indeed deserving of every thing I can say of him, or do for him.—You may easily judge of the opinion I entertain of his talents and integrity, when this government has considered him, though not in their immediate service,

as the fittest person to charge with their dispatches to Europe, at this important moment; and personally to represent the true state of the affairs of this presidency. From the share, which, from his connexion with me, and the delicate commissions in which he has been employed, he has had in the very trying and difficult scenes of my government, you will see at once, that he must be better qualified than any one for such a service: and those who wish to receive the most authentic information of public affairs in this part of the world, unmixed with party, temporary politics, or private views, may depend upon whatever he may say upon the subject.—From every circumstance of your situation, I conceive such a person must be a welcome visitor, and I would hope, that his being my friend might give him some additional merit with you, if he wanted it on his own account, which he does not.

Since I left England I have never trespassed upon you with any application, nor do I mean to press any upon you now, even in favor of Mr. Staunton, otherwise than, as I am certain, that when you come to know him, you will thank me for his introduction to you.—His sagacity, and singular talents for public business, his extensive knowledge of most parts of the world,—his spirit, integrity, and fidelity, so fully experienced by myself, give me a right to speak of him in high terms, and to say, that his assistance will be of infinite use to the public, in almost any department he could be employed in.—I am, &c.

MACARTNEY.

XC.

Eyles Irwin, esq. to Robert Gregory, esq.

Tinnevelly, Aug. 1st, 1784.

My dear Sir,

I had the misfortune to receive only a few minutes warning of the sailing of the Coventry (French frigate) and I further labour under the probability of this letter being too late for her packet. But when a vessel is going for Europe, I should never forgive myself for being silent to such a friend as Mr. Gregory; particularly when a person is is going by the Coventry, on the part of Lord Macartney, whom of all people, I would wish to be known to you, and who is himself very ambitious of the honor of an introduction.

I will not pretend to enter into a minute account of Mr. Staunton. The public character he came out with, has doubtless made his name known to you; as the part he has acted in the great theatre of India, no less to the honor of Lord Macartney than himself, will render him worthy of your confidence and support, in the business he has now undertaken. The differences subsisting between the Marquis de Bussy and the presidency of Madras, relative to the execution of the treaty, require the presence of a gentleman in London, who from his situation happens to be well acquainted with the whole transaction.—Mr. Staunton naturally occurred to Lord Macartney and the committee, as the person best fitted to defend

their conduct, by having been three years confidential secretary to his lordship; by having been sent to settle the truce at Cuddalore, when the news of the peace arrived in July, 1783; and by having been joined in the commission to conclude the peace with Tippoo Sultaun, at Mangalore. To these important services, and to an extensive knowledge of the politics of India, he joins an attachment to his lordship, and a zeal for the public cause, which justify the choice, and do credit to the discernment, of the committee.

I cannot conclude this letter without speaking a few words of Mr. S. as an individual. He is a man whom I am proud to number among my friends, and whom I can venture to introduce to your notice and patronage. To be disinterested, is his principle; to be poor amid the strongest temptations, would be his pride, did he consider *that* as a merit, which is enforced by honor and duty. His talents have been tried, and his integrity has been put to the proof. In times like these, he will be a precious acquisition to that party at home, who are seeking for truth, and are convinced that India can only be saved by a combination of superior abilities and virtue! As no system can be immediately conducted by the rules of the Company's service, and as, according to the judicious maxim of Lord Macartney, "men must be made for places, and not places for men," the preferment of an able man will be no supercession; I most earnestly recommend Mr. Staunton to your good offices, and should rejoice to see him return in a station adequate to his merits, no less for the gratification of my public than my private feelings.

I shall acknowledge your last favor, when I can find a moment to do justice to it: but I fear it will be always in vain that I attempt to acknowledge the indulgence you shew to my endeavours to gratify your curiosity, and the promise you offered me, of support to my wishes and views in India. I must be more than indebted to Mr. Staunton, for a detail of my labors since the æra of the assignment; and trust, that the plain tale, which his candour will give you, will put neither Mr. Gregory, nor the rest of my friends to the blush.

I have the honor to be, &c.

EYLES IRWIN.

XCI.

Colonel Fullarton to the Right Hon. Sir A. Macdonald.

Tanjore, Aug. 11th, 1784.

My dear Macdonald,

—I wrote to you about twelve days ago, two letters by Mr. Staunton, whom I presented to you as one of the ablest and best informed men, that has ever been entrusted with a public situation in this country. I told you, that he had possessed the fullest confidence of Lord Macartney, and of his government: that he had supported his measures by the ablest compositions, and extended his influence by the wisest counsels.—I also told you, that there was no situation in this country, that would not feel the benefit of his talents, if he should be appointed to return to India, whither it is impossible for him to come, except in some effica-

cious and distinguished situation. To all this I should have added that, although he has held the employment of all others the most conducive to manœuvres of emolument, he has rejected every overture of that nature with a Spartan rigidity, and returns to Europe, in no degree benefited equal to his merits or his appointments. Therefore, to his knowledge and ability, be pleased to add a more rare commodity, in this country, self denial, *alias*, total disinterestedness.—

ever yours,
WM. FULLARTON.

XCII.

Edmund Burke, esq. to George Leonard Staunton, esq.

Beaconsfield, Thursday night, eight o'clock,
April 7th, 1785.

Indeed, my dear Sir, I was very much mortified at the receipt of your letter, which my son's man brought to me from town this moment. If I had any interest worth mentioning, it is too late for me to try the exertion of it; for this affair will be determined before a letter from me can find its way to its object. I know hardly any of the directors except enemies, by sight; the *enemy* I know very well: those who are disposed to us I have never spoke to, but once to Mr. Hall; and to him I think I have no title at all to apply. Whatever interest I might have, must be indirect, through Sir Henry Fletcher. This is the only

comfort I have, in beinge xcluded, by the short notice you have given me, from the pleasure I should have had in straining every nerve to shew, not my real affection for you (which would however carry me far indeed) but my regard to justice, in doing something to acknowledge the service this country has, for the first time, received in India, that did not take care that the service should be accompanied with the reward. I am really afraid that this, so singular method of service will not be understood by those gentlemen, who have voted a pension of four hundred a year, and a sum of money, to a secretary of theirs, under censure of the House of Commons for falsifying their records.—I have so little hopes of the court in its present disposition, that I almost wish that something should put off your business. I would then see what could be done, in the only way in which I can do any thing.—

ever, my dear sir,

most faithfully yours,

EDMUND BURKE.

XCIII.

The same to the same.

Beaconsfield, June, 1785.

My dear Sir,

We have looked for you impatiently; but have comforted ourselves with an assurance that business, which no man feels to be of more importance than I do, keeps you in town. It was no earlier than yesterday morning, that I was informed of a trait of

malice against me, to prejudice me in the part in which I am the most vulnerable, the interest of my friends. My successors in the pay office, under a pretence that all payments to the King's troops should be made by the Company's paymaster at Madras, have sent to the India House, to consult the claims upon that subject—they will undoubtedly have an answer, leading to an arrangement, by which poor Willm. Burke will be deprived of his office without compensation, and what is equally bad, if not worse, will be thereby declared in that country, a man without friends and protection at home, which strike at once at the root, both of his interest and his satisfaction in every particular.—It may lead (and I dare say such was clearly the principal view in the transaction) to his recal from India. I do not know, whether you are apprised of it; but such is the state of his affairs, that hither he cannot come. All the reformations made by the gentlemen at present in power, have one, and but one object.—I confess I feel deeply this blow; and should be happy in your advice. I am utterly without resource. Such is the result of my near twenty years endeavours; endeavours carried on, without interruption of more than two or three years taken together, in that period, to cure the disorders, and to bring to justice the villains, who in the India House, and in India, have been labouring for the destruction for so large a part of mankind. The result is, that the worst of these miscreants have not only escaped punishment, but are settled in power, and furnished with means, to wreak

their malice upon the head of every man who has attempted to bring them to justice. Can you, my dear sir, can you give me any advice in this exigency.—

I am ever, my dear sir,
most faithfully and affectionately yours,
EDMUND BURKE.

XCIV.

The same to the same.

Beaconsfield, June 15th, 1785.

My dear Sir,

I was much disappointed at not seeing you with Colonel Fullarton; I should then have talked over with you the subject of your letter. I am happy that, in the main, you are pleased to approve what I put into your hands—at least, it convinces me of your partiality; and that I shall always value very highly. I shall change the part you mention, agreeably to your wishes and to the facts. I think you perfectly in the right—and this is one of the good effects of consulting with informed and candid judges.

I am ever, my dear sir,
most faithfully yours,
EDMUND BURKE.

XCV.

The same to the same.

Beaconsfield, July 6, 1785.

My dear Sir,

On my arrival here Mrs. Burke tells me that you wished me to name a day for our having the pleasure of seeing you here. May I beg that you and Mrs. Staunton, and your boy, (for whom, and the proper attendants, we have room, and to spare) will favor us with your company, on Monday next, the earlier the better: and the longer you stay, the happier we shall be made, as none can be with more truth and affection, yours most sincerely, than Mrs. Burke, and your faithful and obedient humble servant,

EDMUND BURKE.

XCVI.

Lord Earlsfort (afterwards Earl of Clonmel) to the same.

Dublin, 18th Oct. 1785.

Dear Sir,

Upon my return from Munster, where I have passed the last three weeks, I found your favor, of the 15th instant, upon my table, where it could not have lain long; and I instantly set about the enquiry you wished me to make, which turned out as short as it was pleasant.

The King's letter is now in the secretary's office here, creating you a Baronet; and though His Grace the Lord Lieutenant, who is now at Cork or Killarney, has not yet, I believe, signed the warrant for making out your patent, yet from the usual attention of Mr. Secretary Hamilton, and from the careful hands in which *I know* the official parts of this business are placed, you may with all possible expedition expect a letter directed officially to *Sir Geo. L. Staunton, Bart.* but before it can possibly arrive, I beg I may have the pleasure of presenting by anticipation, Lady Earlsfort's and my own congratulations to Lady Staunton and to you, with our wishes that your little boy may hand down with encrease, those honors, which he will have derived from the merit of his ancestors.—

—I wish you health to do as much good, as your talents and disposition seem to enable and incline you to perform; and hope you will share with Lord Macartney, in all the rewards that are due to a virtuous and honorable ambition, in a great, an arduous, and a powerful station.—

—I request you will present my best regards to his Excellency and that you will do me the justice to believe, I am, with great truth, dear sir,

your most obedient
and very faithful humble servant,
EARLSFORT.

XCVII.

Dr. Agar, Archbishop of Cashel, to the same.

Paultons, near Romsey, Hants,
17th November, 1785.

Dear Sir,

The Gazette, which arrived here this day, having brought an account of the passing of your Patent, I take the earliest opportunity of requesting your and Lady Staunton's acceptance of Mrs. Agar's and my congratulations on this event; which will, I hope, not only gratify your own very reasonable wishes, but be attended by such salutary consequences, as ought to result from royal favor, when conferred as the reward of distinguished merit.

Mrs. Agar and I mean to be in London about the end of this or beginning of the next month, and we flatter ourselves that we may have the pleasure of finding you and Lady Staunton there, and of paying our respects to you before your departure for India.

Mr. Ellis, at whose house we now are, desires me to present to you his compliments and congratulations.

I am, dear Sir,
your very faithful and humble servant,
C. Cashel.

XCVIII.

Marquis of Lothian to the same.

Waverley, Dec. 9, 1785.

Sir,

I have received your very obliging letter; it gave me great pleasure to obey Lord Southampton's commands, and an additional satisfaction, that my earnest efforts could in any degree procure a mark of honor to a gentleman, whose pretensions were so well founded and unequivocal.

I understand from Lord Southampton that you are again about to embark for the East Indies; permit me, therefore, to wish you your health, and a continuation of those honors, which I am persuaded your conduct will ever entitle you to.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
your most humble,
and most obedient servant,
LOTHIAN.

XCIX.

Lady Staunton to Mrs. Collins.

Suffolk Street, Jan. 28, 1786.

Though I lately wrote to you, my dear mama, I cannot avoid embracing the first opportunity of acknowledging, with many thanks, the receipt, on Sunday last, of your very good present, especially as it gives me the comfort of knowing that I continue in your thoughts.

My brother William gave me the pleasure of hearing that he left you quite well—which I hope to have confirmed soon under your own hand. He found me occupied in the important business of preparing for court, where I was going to be presented, upon my husband's being created a Baronet. Lady Macartney accompanied me to the drawing-room, and I was presented by Lord Ailesbury to the Queen, and to the King by Lord Fauconberg. According to the usual ceremony, I made a very low court'sy to the King, who raised me up, and saluted me on the left cheek. You may naturally suppose I was in some little flutter. However, His Majesty asked me but a few civil questions, which it was not difficult to answer—after this, I had still to pay my respects to the Queen. To her, I likewise made a very low court'sy, on which she held out her hand, which I kissed. She then spoke to me a few words, to which I replied, repeating my court'sy, and then retired, mixing again among the crowd of company that filled the drawing-room.—Among those whom I knew there, were Lord Barrington and Mr. Pitt, in whose company I had dined the week before.

Before I left the drawing-room, I had an opportunity of seeing the form of the Speaker in his robes, and other members of the House of Commons, presenting an address to the King, sitting upon his throne. The Queen's birth day is kept next Thursday, when I understand it is proper I should again appear at court to pay my compliments, and I am therefore now preparing for that occasion.—I am, &c.

JANE STAUNTON.

C.

Lord Macartney to Sir Geo. L. Staunton, Bart.

Curzon Street, Sept. 5th, 1787.

Dear Sir George,

I suppose this letter will reach you about the time of your settlement near Chichester. It will probably be at East-hampton, which place I have heard a good account of.—With regard to Sweden, you can hardly be serious in saying it might perhaps be thought too high. Surely, after the situations you held as a councellor and attorney-general in the West Indies, your services to the public in the East, and your rank at home, they should be much obliged to such a man as you to accept it.—I believe it is not yet quite arranged, but I will tell you the little I know of it. My brother-in-law, Colonel Charles Stuart, has, ever since the peace, been soliciting a foreign mission, but has, from the number of real or pretended engagements, been shuffled off from time to time. Just at the time of Wroughton's death, he came over from Flanders, but has never yet called upon us. I am however to see him to-morrow, and shall then learn how matters stand—But at any rate, I fear I have very little weight. Indeed some little circumstances since you left town make me feel very sensibly my want of it; but I shall not quit the chase, nor let any mortifications depress me. I shall certainly write to you again in the course of the week, but must now conclude, as the coach is at the door waiting to take me to court. So adieu,

very sincerely yours,

MACARTNEY.

CI.

The same to the same.

Lissanoure, near Ballymoney,
March 26, 1788.

Dear Sir George,

I return you many thanks for your kind letter, which I received on Sunday, the 16th, at the moment I was setting out for this place. I took Carrickfergus assizes in my way, as I had some business there, which detained me till Saturday last, and I am now here, putting my little matters to rights as fast as I can, that in case any accident should call me away from hence for any length of time, I may leave things in such a state as to have my mind at ease about them during my absence.

I stayed only a week in Dublin, where I saw several of your acquaintance, and I should do much injustice to Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Winder, and my Lord Earlsfort in particular, if I did not mention the very high terms in which they all expressed themselves of you.

Things at present are pretty quiet in this country; the first session of a lord lieutenant is generally a halcyon season, but the subsequent ones are seldom correspondent, and the Marquis of Buckingham, by what I hear, is not likely to pass the remainder of his government so pleasantly as the beginning of it; I protest, I don't as yet see any just ground of complaint against him, but that is no reason, you know, why a public man should not be complained of.—I propose to dedicate next week to the letter, which

you know I have been meditating, so that it may be ready for delivery on my return to London. I believe I shall scarcely be able to leave this place before the latter end of April, and shall hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you in the mean time. The India election will, I suppose, be a very busy and interesting one, but the steed is stolen, and it now matters little whether the stable door be open or shut.—

I am, &c.

MACARTNEY.

CII.

*Sir Geo. Leonard Staunton, Bart. to Sir John Menzies, Bart.**

London, April, 10th 1788.

My dear friend,

Your kind perseverance in writing to me, notwithstanding my long, unaccountable, and ungrateful silence, demands, at least, that I should make to you an avowal of my weakness of body and mind, which has prevented me from doing what I ought to, and would, have had a pleasure in performing.

* This letter is important, because it proves, not only as asserted in the Memoir, that it was expected that Sir George would have gone out with Lord Cornwallis to India, in the situation which was actually conferred on Mr. Shore, afterwards Lord Teignmouth, and have succeeded, as Lord Teignmouth did, to the office of governor-general of India; but, that this would, in the ordinary course of things, have taken place, but for the influence of that still powerful party, against which Lord Macartney and Sir George had contended with so much ability while in India.

The very bad state of health, which the bad weather in the whole last month of my passage to Europe, principally contributed to throw me into, affected my spirits and activity exceedingly. I attempted to accompany the captain of the frigate from Brest to Paris; but I became so much worse upon the road, that however anxious I was to get on, and however much it was my interest to get as soon as possible to England with the first news; I was obliged to stop on the road, before I got half way from Brest. When I got to England the winter was remarkably severe. It affected, and I may almost say, benumbed my faculties. I endeavoured to keep as close to the fire as the tongs were, and always regretted the dinner hour, when I was forced to remove from it.

In this situation, I was overwhelmed with business, with visits, with invitations. It became utterly impossible for me to act for my friends, and also to write to them. I chose therefore the former alternative. It had been my intention to write a short letter to Lord Macartney, and another to you every Saturday. But I had not the spirits or faculty of doing it. Time, even in my hurry, I could have found, but resolution and spirits, and freedom from lassitude, I had not. I may safely venture to say, that Lord Macartney's interest was far upper and more forward in my mind and actions than my own: and yet he did not get three letters, I believe, from me, from the hour of my arrival here. Messrs. Ross and Mill will have, I hope, informed you, that I was alive to your interest, which was partly indeed my own. I availed myself of all my credit with Lady Macartney's family, to excite and

remind them of bringing about the necessary alterations in Sir Robert's mind and testamentary dispositions towards you. I went to Scotland on purpose to visit Sir Robert on your account, when an express from Lady Macartney called me back to London, before I had passed Dumfries. You, who know me well, know that at all times I can be zealous for my friends, though I do not write to them; and you can easily conceive what I have been relating to you, when you add these circumstances and causes of my conduct, since my return, to the natural fault of my disposition: and when once a man is conscious of having omitted what he ought to have done, it is like letting slip an opportunity which does not return. It was easier for me to write to any body to whom I owed no correspondence, than to those to whom I was most deeply indebted.

The listlessness of my disposition still continues, though my health, with some exceptions now and then, is better. After Lord Macartney was appointed, soon after my return, governor-general of Bengal, and to which I flattered myself that I had somewhat contributed, you may suppose my mind was not a little occupied about the great objects which were likely to occupy his attention in India, and in which, in order to maintain his reputation already acquired, he must not have acquitted himself in a common manner.

After Lord Macartney declined a second time the government, and that Lord Cornwallis had applied for my appointment, to a seat in the supreme council, in consequence of advice given to him by his two most intimate friends, (the Marquis of Lansdown and Lord Rawdon) and that Mr. Dundas had told me that go-

vernment would not refuse any thing to Lord Cornwallis that could be granted, my head was again busy on no trifling objects, in order to correspond to the recommendations that had been given of me. But just at that time, Mr. Hastings was in favor with the administration, as he has always been with the court. Not only it was not thought right that Lord Cornwallis should have an adviser in a friend of Lord Macartney's, but it was thought material that his adviser should be a friend of Mr Hastings; and therefore Mr. Pitt told Lord Cornwallis, that a bill had been just prepared in the cabinet, excluding all persons from seats in the council of Bengal, but Company's servants, and that he could not avoid bringing it into parliament, which bill prevented me from being eligible; but that he recommended a Company's servant to his lordship, who was eminently qualified to advise him: and thus Mr. Shore, as in fact the friend of Mr. Hastings, was appointed, in order to be the guide of Lord Cornwallis.

It was then proposed by my friends, that I should go out with the succession to Sir John Day's place; and here my idleness and inactivity, and want of health, prevented my success, by giving time to the friends of Mr. Benjamin Sullivan, to have him named by the Court of Directors to that succession before I applied. When there was question of a person to go as envoy to China, I sent a message to Mr. Dundas, offering my services; but Colonel Cathcart had the preference. All these disappointments have contributed to a listlessness of temper, that active life would soon rid me of.— I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CIII.

Memorandum on Education, from Sir Geo. Leonard Staunton's Note Book.

Mardi, 27 Mai, 1788.

Hier mon fils est entré dans sa huitieme année. Je compte à l'avenir écrire un journal, qui le regardera entierement*.

Il naquît lorsque j'etois dans l'Inde. Il avoit plus de trois ans et demi, avant que l'ai vû. Depuis ce tems-là j'ai tâché d'user des moyens d'education, qui tendîssent à le rendre dans la suite sage, sain, et savant. Sagesse comprend vertu; vertu, absence des vices.— Le premier defaut, ou plûtot la première disposition, qu'il a fallu tâcher de corriger, étoit celle, qui étoit très naturelle, de suivre ses fantaîsies enfantines quelque peu convenables qu'elles fûssent, et de se fâcher, lorsqu'on vouloit l'en détourner. Il n'avoit pas été jusqu' alors guères dans l'habitude d'être contredit. Il a été assez mécontent de moi, lorsque j'ai entrepris cette tâche. Il prononça qu'il falloit me renvoyer dans le *ship-house* à Madras. Il y avoit ausi de ma faute, car je ne m'étois pas ainsi abstenu des expressions et de l'apparence de colere, lorsque je voulois me faire obéir; au lieu qu'il auroit dû garder une contenance de sérénité, et lui faire voir que c'etoit la raison seule qui ordonnoit.

* The intention here expressed appears to have been abandoned; at least, no further notice on the subject has been found among Sir George's papers.

Au reste, je n'ai point trouvé des defauts ou mauvaises dispositions en lui d'une nature obstinée ou difficiles à deraciner. On parvenoit avant que je l'ai connu à le dissuader de ses fantaisies, en menaçant de se faire mal, comme de mettre son doigt dans le feu, s'il s'y obstinoit. Il s'alarmoit tout de suite du mal d'autrui, et se rendoit à sa volonté.

Un de mes premiers soins étoit de lui inspirer une horreur et un mepris contre le mensonge, un des premiers vices des enfans, et qui est très naturel aux foibles de tous les âges, étant le moyen le plus simple d'éviter la punition des faits defendus par les forts. Il m'a été d'autant moins difficile de l'engager à être toujours véridique, qu'il n'étoit gueres dans le cas de craindre même des reproches pour les petits maux que cause souvent l'étourdérie des enfans, et dont je ne prenois jamais notice.

L'observation qui font les enfans de l'autorité de leurs parens envers les domestiques de la maison, les engage souvent à vouloir suivre leur example. Je lui defendis d'user d'aucune autorité sur les domestiques, encore moins de les battre. C'est ce qu'il avoit entrepris de faire à l'egard d'un garçon, a-peu-près de douze ans que j'avois alors à mon service. Sur quoi je fis venir tous les deux, et j'ordonnois au garçon de rendre toujours deux bons coups pour un que mon fils lui auroit donné. Ensuite je me suis tourné vers celui-ci, et lui demandois de quel droit il osoit lever la main contre un autre ; que moi qui étois le maître de ce garçon ne le battois point. D'autrefois il se servoit du ton d'autorité un peu tranchant en demandant quelque

chose aux domestiques. Je leur defendis en sa présence de lui jamais rien donner, ni de faire aucune attention à ses demandes, à moins qu'il ne le fit honnêtement; et lorsqu'il voulût raisonner avec moi la dessus, disant, que c'étoit des domestiques, et que moi je ne leur disois pas toujours, s'il leur plût de me donner ce que je leur demandois: je lui repliquai, que les domestiques étoient nos egaux par la nature, que nous leur avions autant d'obligations pour leurs services, qu'eux nous en avoient pour nos gages, &c. et que si je leur manquois quelquefois en honnêteté, c'étoit mal à moi, et qu'il ne falloit pas imiter le mal, mais seulement le bien que je faisois. Au reste, je compris bientôt combien il étoit essentiel de ne point lui donner, ni lui laisser donner, des mauvais examples: et j'ai taché de mettre plus de précaution dans toute ma conduite. La conversation qui n'est point adressée aux enfans, fait plus d'impression sur eux, que les preceptes qui leur sont adressés; et qu'ils soupçonnent toujours. Je pris donc soin que les sentimens que j'exprimois en sa présence étoient ceux que je voulois lui inspirer, et je recommandois les mêmes soins à sa mère, et aux autres avec lesquels il se trouvoit quelquefois.

Ainsi que tous les enfans, il aimoit beaucoup à avoir des *toys*, mais il ne m'a fallu qu'une seule conversation avec lui pour lui en détourner entièrement, en lui faisant envisager combien il y a avoit de folie à se complaire à de telles babioles, qui n'étoient d'aucune utilité, qu'il cassoit bientôt, et qui coutoient de l'argent qu'on pouvoit beaucoup mieux employer. Enfin je lui inculquai efficacement que tout ce qui n'étoit pas

utile ne devoit pas être recherché; et depuis ce tems-là, il a toujours regardé les *toys* avec mépris, donnant aux boutiques où on les vendoit, le nom d'*officina Nugarum*. Ces derniers mots me rappellent la méthode que je pris avec succés pour lui apprendre le Latin. Sa mère avoit deja eu soin de lui apprendre à lire l'anglois. Les premiers petits livres qu'on lui mît entre les mains, et qui étoient les *Spelling-books* ordinaires, le degoûterent beaucoup: et il étoit très difficile de l'engager à y prêter attention; mais lorsqu'on lui acheta les petits livres de Madame Barbauld pour les enfans, il s'y attacha avec impressement, disant avec satisfaction, que ce n'étoient pas la des a, b, ab. des a, c, ac; fait, qui prouve l'excellence de ces livres de Madame Barbauld. Quelque jours avant qu'il eût atteint sa cinquième année, je commençai à lui faire repeter quelque mots latins: par example, je ne lui donnai rien de ce qu'il me demandoit, à moins qu'il n'ajoutât à sa demande, *si tibi placet*, *&c.* Mais ces mots nouveaux ne lui faisoient pas plaisir, il trouvoit qu'il étoit plus facile et plus naturel de dire les choses tout uniment en anglois; mais je perseverai; et il fût surpris en quelque tems, que les deux ou trois premières phrases latines, que je lui avois apprises, lui venoient à la langue sans difficulté. Cependant ses progrés étoient très lents, je n'etois pas beaucoup avec lui.—

CIV.

Lord Macartney to the Right Hon. William Pitt.

Parkhurst, near Dorking, Surrey,
Oct. 22nd, 1788.

Sir,

I must rely upon your candor and good nature, to excuse me for the liberty I take in giving you the trouble of this letter, which arises, I can safely venture to assure you, not less from my regard for the public service, than my friendship for a gentleman of uncommon merit.—The name of Sir George Staunton was, I believe, very favorably mentioned several months since, when the mission to China was in agitation, and I understand that it has been again repeated on the news of Colonel Cathcart's death, which happening without the substitution of a provisional successor, leaves the object of his appointment unaccomplished.—If the experience of upwards of four-and-twenty years, in the various offices I have held, were presumed to enable me to form any judgment of the characters of mankind, I should not hesitate a moment to recommend Sir George Staunton as most singularly fitted for any station that required knowledge of business, discretion, perseverance, and address.—Those qualities he so eminently displayed in negociating the treaty of 1784, with Tippoo Sultan, which gave peace to India, and to which we owe the tranquillity of that part of the world, for nearly five years past, must be too well known to you for me to dwell upon, I shall not now therefore trespass on you further

than to entreat from you the justice to believe that this letter proceeds from the fairest motives, and not a little from my sincere wishes for the success of his Majesty's government in the hands where he has placed it; and surely, Sir, no man feels more sensibly than you do, how much that success depends upon the employment of talents and integrity.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
Sir,
your most faithful humble servant,
MACARTNEY.

CV.

The same to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Buxton, August 8th, 1789.

Dear Sir George,

I have received your letter, and beg you to tell Mr. Richardson how much I feel obliged to him for all his kind friendship, but when my Lord Cornwallis has been able to do so little, with all the powers and advantages which government here gave him, what can be expected from others, without them. My sentiments seldom vary much upon any subject, but with regard to India, it is impossible they should change, and I have long determined never to meddle with that country, unless I could make it a certain instrument of great benefit to the state, and of great honor to myself. Those objects I could not hope to accomplish, unless it were manifest that I had the united

support of the Company (whilst there is one), the Ministers, and the Crown. The want of such support, was, as you know, a very strong reason among others, for my twice declining the government of Bengal, some years ago; and since that time, d'ye think the prospect less discouraging? But enough of this.

I have regularly used the waters here ever since my arrival, and for these ten days past I imagine they have been of considerable service to me—My time is nearly expired, and I propose being in London on Wednesday night. I mean to stay there only one day, for I am quite impatient to get back to my little cottage, at Parkhurst, whose humble roof has infinitely more charms for me, than all the fine palaces that we inhabited at Madras and Calcutta.—I shall hope to have a glance of you as I pass through, and am with great truth and regard,

dear Sir George,
very sincerely yours,
MACARTNEY.

CVI.

The same to the same.

Parkhurst, near Dorking, Surry,
Oct. 10, 1789.

Dear Sir George,

Though I have little to say, that you can be very desirous or interested to know, yet possibly you may be glad, at Paris, to receive a letter from England, however trifling its contents may be—

Lady M. and I are much obliged to you for your remembrance of us before you set out, but nothing occurs at present to trouble you with a commission for, or we should take advantage of your kind offer.—In my way from Hampshire, I stopped a few days in London, in order to pay my duty at the levee, last Wednesday, where I found almost as great a crowd as used to attend there before his Majesty's illness; but many were, I believe, disappointed, as he made a turn to his left at the door, instead of standing to talk to people in the threshold, as formerly. However, he did not appear to pass by any one, intentionally, but spoke pretty equally to every body, who was fairly in his way. What he said to me, and what I overheard him say to others, was remarkably *proper* and guarded; but Sir Frederick Haldimand seemed to have a larger share of his conversation, than any person near me. I saw Sir John Aubrey, and the Duke of Queensberry, in the crowd, but was not within reach of knowing how far they were noticed.—The king is perfectly well, but, to my eye, looked more ruddy and more corpulent than formerly.—His manner composed, and much less hurry or precipitation in his address and enunciation than he used to have.—A few transient smiles, but not a single laugh, that I could observe.—The news at court, was the Duke of Dorset's appointment to the stewardship of the household, and the Duke of Beaufort's to the government of Ireland. The first has actually taken place, and the other is daily expected. The Marquis of Buckingham is said to be dangerously ill of a universal languor and depression. My Lord

Auckland (Mr. Eden) is talked of for Paris, and Mr. Fitzherbert for Spain.—I think both very likely. I have heard no one yet mentioned for the Hague—I hope your tour to France will be an amusing one, and that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you here on your return, being with great truth and regard,

dear Sir George,

very sincerely yours,

MACARTNEY.

CVII.

Sir George L. Staunton to Arthur Piggott, esq. (afterwards Sir A. P.)

Paris, Oct. 22, 1789.

Dear Sir,

No Mr. Palmer having performed as yet any miracles in the post-office of this country, I have not as yet been favored with any account of your arrival at Dieppe, but I please myself with the idea that you and Mr. Steers have had a safe and not unpleasant journey.

For my part, having succeeded through the Viscount de Noailles in getting a ticket of admission every day into the gallery of the national assembly, I have seen nothing but what has passed within its walls. But persons out of doors had again the afflicting spectacle of seeing yesterday, the head of a man carried on a pike about the streets: a man of a good character, though really guilty of secreting a few loaves of bread. It appears that there is a sufficient quantity of flour in this capital for its daily consumption; and it is

therefore the fault of the municipality and of the heads of districts, that the bread is not fairly and proportionably distributed, to all the inhabitants. This event is the more deplorable, as it suddenly occasioned the passing, yesterday, of a riot act, without even any limits to its duration.—

They (the members of the assembly) are in a very ticklish situation, and they feel it, between the real dislike of the sovereign, the ministers, the clergy, nobility, and parliaments; and the violence of the Paris people, and the jealousy of the provinces. That of Dauphiné, impressed with an idea that the assembly, as well as the king, are under the governance of the mob, since the 5th instant, have declared all the acts passed since that period illegal, and not to be obeyed; and have invited the other provinces to follow their example. If followed, there is great danger of general confusion: and at any rate it will, I think, take a very considerable space of time, before matters are settled into a regular and tranquil government.

Adieu! ever yours,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CVIII.

Lord Macartney to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Parkhurst, Dorking, Surry,
Nov. 8th, 1789.

Dear Sir George,

Lady M. joins me in a thousand thanks to you for your letter, and the hearing trumpets,

which accompanied it. She particularly desires you to accept her best acknowledgments for your obliging remembrance; and though, having tried so many remedies already without success, she almost despairs of relief, yet she will certainly make a fair experiment of the one you have sent her. I shall be happy to give you a favorable account of it.

The French chaos seems to be more and more *embrouillé* every day, and such a number of unexpected and improbable events have lately happened, that all judgment and experience are distanced in the race of conjecture; it is most likely, that chance will have the greatest share in the decision at last. One thing, however, I think, is certain; the despotism of the government can never revive. I have seldom given myself any trouble in speculative arguments on the propriety of one measure or another in this contest; the only point, in which we are interested, is, how far we ought to profit by it, and in what manner we can turn it most to the advantage of Great Britain. I take it for granted our ministers have that object chiefly in view, and that, however inattentive they may appear, they will not suffer themselves to lose sight of it.

When I was at the last levee, the Duke of Leeds said to me, "How could you let Sir George Staunton go to Paris at such a hazardous time as this?" "My lord," I answered, "I really did not know of his intentions, till he was on the point of setting out, but I know his discretion and address too well to think him in any danger; and I know that, when he comes back, I should take his account of French politics, and his

opinions upon them, before those of any other man whatsoever." He made me no reply, but by his being acquainted with your motions, I presume the people in office are well informed of the Englishmen who now visit Paris, and probably of their habits and conversation there. I wish they may have better intelligence from France, than former ministers had from America, or, at least, that they may make a better use of it; though, ten to one, they will not; for, in general, all young ministers are self-sufficient, and most ministers, whether young or old, believe only what they wish.—

—Lady M. joins me in a thousand good wishes to you and Lady Staunton, and in hopes that you found your young gentleman perfectly well.

I am, dear Sir George,

very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

CIX.

William Ross, esq. to Thomas Cockburn and Josiah Webber, esqrs.

Upper Wimpole Street.
10th May, 1790.

My dear Friends,

It is possible that this may be my last farewel letter to you, as I am to go out with David Reid to-morrow, and may chance to fall*. In that case, I have left a justification of myself in the

* The melancholy anticipation of the amiable and excellent writer of this letter, was fatally realized on the following day.

hands of Sir George Staunton, and my nephew-in-law, Mr. Cockburn, who will of course transmit it to you; and I trust that my conduct will stand approved in your opinion, and the opinion of the world. Commend me strongly to the king of Tanjore, and assure him of the attention I have invariably shewn to his interest, and the interest of his country, and my respect for him:—tell him to be just to his people, and that I have a confidence his affairs will prosper:—that I have left all his papers and affairs in the management of Sir George Staunton, who is a zealous friend, and a man of integrity, on whom he may place the utmost reliance: that, in my opinion, he should appoint no other agent, but leave the management of his affairs in this country completely to Sir George, and give him an increase of salary; which would enable him to maintain and procure a seat in parliament, and give him additional weight with administration.

Let me conjure you, my dear boys, to continue the same confidential intercourse with Sir George Staunton, which you have done with me—he will be your friend, and I bequeath to him my unbounded love and affection for you. I cannot tell you how much I am obliged to him, for his warm and friendly attention to me. Cockburn is on the way to prosperity, and I have no doubt of his success. Should my Josiah be enabled to come home, I am sure Sir George Staunton will share his situation with him, and lead him forward to honor and advancement in this country, as I should be glad to have done. Cherish, my dear boys, the memory of your adopted father, but do not maintain

enmity against his enemies. Give my compliments to Raphael; he will find his children have improved under my care, and I have left them and his affairs in charge with my executors. Farewel.—I hope I shall conduct myself with an even and determined mind, whatever may be the event.

May God bless and prosper you both, prays
your eternally affectionate,
WILLIAM ROSS.

CX.

Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. to Sir Geo. L. Staunton, Bart.

Soho Square, June 19, 1790.

Dear Sir,

As your habitual knowledge of business enables you to do it with facility, and your present residence at Oxford puts you in the line of being particularly useful, to what is with me, just now, a favorite pursuit, I trust to your friendship to excuse the trouble my request will occasion to you.

I wish very much to be informed, whether at Oxford or its vicinity, the quantity of wheat annually brought to market, has increased or diminished, in the last twenty years, and in what proportion.

The opinions of sensible millers and corn-buyers will easily answer this question, but if market accounts of any kind are kept, by which they can be verified, a statement of the nature and extent of these, will be

particularly useful. The reasons for increase or diminution, if they appear well founded, will add much value to the information.

Oxford and Abingdon markets seem well qualified for this enquiry, and very likely to give a real and fair return. Whitney, or any other town in which a manufacture is, must have a supply proportioned to the demand, not to the growth of the country.—

I beg, sir, to congratulate you on the degree you have received from the university, and to congratulate the university also, upon the propriety of their having so disposed of it; and I trust sir, you will believe me,

as I am,

your faithful and obedient servant,

Jos. Banks.

CXI.

Lord Macartney to the same.

Lissanoure, Dec. 1790.

Dear Sir George,

I ought to have sooner thanked you for your obliging letter, of the 25th of October, and have had it in my thoughts almost every day, since I received it; but various accidents and occurrences have, I know not how, constantly intruded upon me, and disappointed my intentions.—You are not very fond, I think, of a country life.—The taste for it grows upon me wonderfully; not a moment seems tedious, and so far from time being heavy upon my hands, I am always

complaining of its rapidity, and never find it sufficient for the schemes I have of filling it up here.—

—The whole of Mr. B's. pamphlet, on French affairs, has been retailed by piece meal, in one of our county newspapers here, by which means I have had an opportunity of reading it quite through. An old presbyterian neighbour of mine, who almost worshipped Mr. B. for his speeches against the American War, for reforming the King's houshold, and for punishing the enormities of Hastings, was so shocked, at what he called apostacy, that I had no way of bringing him to himself, but by observing that, possibly, this last book of Mr. B's. might be like his first one (the vindication of natural society) a mere *jeu d'esprit*, and that he perhaps was not quite in earnest, but meant it rather as a display of his parts than his principles—and I assure you, so unwilling was my friend to change his opinion of Mr. B. that he was *half* willing to believe me *quite* serious.

I dare say, that some persons, who have not hitherto been supposed very partial to Mr. B. will be pleased and flattered with his performance, but I am disposed to think, that it will be of no service to that cause at home, which he espouses abroad: "*Hœc amat obscurum.*" But coming into the world under so great a name, it will excite universal curiosity, and undergo universal examination and criticism—Enquiry upon such a subject may quickly stir the waters of our stagnant constitution, and give vigor to numbers, who are now only waiting to be helped into the pool.—

I am ever, very truly your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXII.

The same to the same.

Parkhurst, Oct. 22, 1791.

Dear Sir George,

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter, of the 16th instant, from Edinburgh, by yesterday's post.—

—You have seen Lord C's letter to the minister, of the 21st April, in the London Gazette, in which he confesses that a procrastinated war must be the certain ruin of the Company. I dare say he will do all he possibly can to put a speedy end to the war, but if he should fail, he has told us the consequence.— I hope and believe he will take Seringapatam; but will that terminate the war? I believe not.—At all events it will require something more than General M. or even Lord C. can do, to restore the havoc which the war must make in the Company's finances, and I am told that D. himself has some serious thoughts of going there.—

—When I was in town, I was asked by a sort of great man at court, whether I did not think we should conquer Tippoo: I told him we should not only conquer Tippoo, but all the other powers in India, if we went to the expence of it. I don't think he at all relished my answer, and yet I think it was a very fair one.

Lady M. joins me in many compliments to you, and Lady S. I hope your young gentleman has borne his travels well—If his health has been good, he must have been equally entertained and improved by them.

Adieu, very truly your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXIII.

Professor Afzelius to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.*

Novi Castelli, d. 27 Oct. 1791.

Præclarissimo Domino Georgio Staunton, Baronetto, S. D. Adamus Afzelius.

Tuo desiderio me apprime satisfacturum spero, si occupationes filii tui dilectissimi quotidianas, post abitum tuum, breviter tibi referam.

D. 19 Oct. Hortum Botanicum Edinburgensem visitavimus, et inter alias plantas, quæ nobis sese obtulerunt, in primis duas nobiles admirati sumus, Laurum nempe camphoram et Dracænam Draconem, quæ erant maximæ quam umquam vidi, et ultima, majorem certe in tota Britannia non invenies.

D. 20 Oct. Museum Dni. Weir adivimus et varias res antea non adeo bene cognitas examinavimus. Et abituro filio tuo in sui memoriam dono dedit Dnus. Weir, Tetraonem Tetricem marem, pulcherrime farctum.

D. 21 Oct. Varia loca Edinburgi memorabilia inspeximus, Holyrood House, the assembly-room, et Dni. Raeburn pulchram picturarum collectionem;

* In the course of the summer of 1791, Sir George made the tour of Scotland, accompanied by his family, in which were then included, John Huttner, esq. now of the Foreign Office, who, at that time, had the charge of his son's education; and the Professor Afzelius, of Upsal, in Sweden; who, not being familiar with the English language, always corresponded with Sir George in Latin—Sir George's return singly to London from Edinburgh, on particular business, gave occasion to the above letter from the Professor.

etiam quomodo columna ista magna lapidea ad Collegium trahebatur et deinde funibus in altum tollebatur. Tandem amicis nostris Edinburgensibus valediximus.

D. 22 Oct. Ab Edinburgo ad urbem Haddington profecti sumus, cœlo maxime pluvioso; et sub hoc itinere observavimus confectionem salis ex aqua marina, rudera Castelli St. German's, et Fucum digitatum ad stercorandos, tum agros, tum hortos oleraceos, usurpatum.

D. 23 Oct. Ab Haddington, ad Dunbar, et inde ad Press. Hoc die vidimus admirabiles illas rupes columnares, rudera castelli Dunbartensis, hujus urbis portum, et e longinquo locum Dunhill, ubi exercitum Scotorum vicit Protector Cromwell, insulam Bass copia Pelicanorum Bassanorum memorabilem, insulam aliam nomine May, et castellum vetus Tantallon dictum.— Hodie etiam non Fucum solum digitatum in agris sparsum vidimus, sed alios quoque, ut serratum, siliquosum, rubentem, plumosum, ceteros.

D. 24 Oct. A Press ad Berwick, et inde ad Wooler. In litore Berwickensi varias singulares plantas collegimus, hujus urbis portum, pontem et valla inspeximus, et circa Lowick viginti circiter Ardeas Grues observavimus triangulari forma volantes.

D. 25 Oct. A Wooler ad Chillingham, deinde ad Whittingham et tandem ad Alnwick. Ad Chillingham occasionem habuimus examinandi pecora ista fera adeo celebrata. Erant circiter quinquaginta, omnino alba, extremitatibus et præsertim auribus fuscis; pilis erectis et caudis terram tangentibus; varietate domestica paullo minora, torva et timida.—

Sed quod ad Tarandos, non adeo felices fuimus. Omnes enim erant mortui, e Lapponia adducti infra tertium annum; unica illorum progenies, anno præterito.

D. 26 Oct. Inspecta arce Alnwickensi profecti sumus ad urbem Morpeth.

D. 27 Oct. Hodie huc venimus, sed adhuc non nisi situm urbis vidimus; quæ restant, cras examinanda sunt.

Hinc vides, præclarissime vir, tuam instructionem nos præcise sequi. Rogo igitur velis eam continuare; quoniam *alias* valde parum videbimus, ob festinationem. Etenim, mirabile dictu, matronæ nunc surgunt hora matutina quinta, vel saltim sexta.

Præter supra allata, varias insuper aves plantasque, prout sese nobis obtulerunt, examinavimus. Ad umbellatas, syngenesistas et gramina, quod attinet, illis præsertim studebimus, tametsi vereor, ne admodum pauca sint, quæ hoc anni tempore invenire possimus.

Lady Staunton mihi injunxit narrare, se hodie duas a te litteras accepisse, præter quatuor illas, quas Edinburgi habuit.

Omnes tibi salutem apprecamur stabilem, et in primis oscula amicitiæ mittit filius tuus amantissimus, qui, vegetus et hilaris, eodem quo laudabiliter incepit, diligentiæ virtutisque tramite pergit, et confido, semper perrecturus est, terque quaterque felix.

Iterum atque iterum valeas, mihique nullo non tempore faveas!!

CXIV.

Sir George L. Staunton, Bart. to Dr. Stephen Egan.

Salisbury, Dec. 11th, 1791.

My dear Sir,

Your favor of the 19th of October, after travelling into Scotland, where I was at that date, but which I left soon after, reached me here; and I hasten to make you my most hearty congratulations on your marriage. I do not doubt but that you have made a proper choice; and that you and Mrs. Egan will be perfectly happy in each other. And I cannot help flattering myself, but that the affection and friendship, which subsists so much to my satisfaction between you and me, will descend to our respective representatives. I feel that nothing is more grateful than to have a hopeful child; and I hope that you will, in course of time, have the same gratification, in one or more instances, and, indeed, I can have no doubt of it, as it seldom happens but that the offspring partakes of the disposition of the original stock. I beg you will present to Mrs. Egan, my wife's, and son's, and my own respects and best wishes, and congratulations. We shall be all happy to accept your kind invitation; though it had really been my intention not to give any notice of my arrival in Galway, but to take up my quarters whilst there at an inn, as I was ashamed to be going a second time to other people's houses, instead of having one of my own; which I should have, if my ideas of education for my son, did not make me think it necessary to travel with him. My object is to make

him a good man, esteemed by those who may know him, capable of any station in which Providence may place him, and satisfied with the moderate fortune I shall have to leave him.—

I am ever truly, my dear Sir,
your affectionate kinsman and servant,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CXV.

Lord Macartney to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Parkhurst, Dorking, Surry,
Dec. 18th, 1791.

Dear Sir George,

I was much obliged to you for your letter from Salisbury, and shall talk to you fully on the subject of it, when I have the pleasure of seeing you.—The object seems at a great distance, and considering the present military system, I should scarcely imagine, that it would be ever within my reach. The *other* matter, as you will perceive from your conversations with Capt. Mackintosh and Mr. Richardson, seems to wear a more favorable appearance; but till I have seen Mr. Dundas, and the business be more opened and explained, it is not easy, even on this point, to form a proper judgment.—Our friend Richardson is eager, sanguine, and active, and from his superior intelligence of these affairs, ought certainly to have great weight: but is he likely to have as much weight as he ought to have? and will there not be fifty knaves and blockheads, who on the first hint of what is in agitation, will, by

means of connexion and other circumstances, intrude themselves into the business, destroy all the credit that able and honest men might acquire in it, and defeat all the benefits intended to the public. You, who are on the spot, can judge of all this, better than I can at a distance; but certainly neither I, nor any wise man, would wish to embark in the vessel, unless there was a fair prospect of making an honorable and prosperous voyage. I own myself pleased with the idea, and should therefore be sorry to find myself disappointed.—Very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXVI.

The same to the same.

London, Jan. 21st, 1792.

Dear Sir George,

Yesterday I received your letter from Calais, of the 11th instant, since which, I have seen Mr. Baring, [the chairman of the Court of Directors.] He seemed particularly solicitous that you should be at the head of the committee, at China, and spoke of you in the handsomest manner, expressing his reliance on your ability and resolution in forwarding his views for putting things on a proper footing there; and adding that the appointments would be much superior to what your station with me at Pekin would amount to. I assured him, (what. I believe, it is unnecessary for me to repeat, are the genuine sentiments of my heart) that I would not suffer any per-

sonal convenience of my own, or any advantage that I might derive from your assistance, to stand a moment in the way of your interests; but that I understood you had arranged your plan, and that your wish was to proceed with me, and to return with me, if you could: That the latter indeed might perhaps not be equally in your power, with the former; as in case of my death or other accident, the secretaryship of the Embassy, would, I presumed, involve a substitution of you in my place.—

—Turn what I have written above in your mind, and when (after putting any wishes of mine totally out of the question, and consulting only what you think your own inclination, interest, and advantage) you have considered it, tell me what I shall explicitly say to Mr. Baring upon the subject; as many very unpleasant circumstances may arise from so material a business being afloat, either by my misunderstanding Mr. B. or by his misunderstanding you.

The more I read and think, the more I am of opinion, that if I am to have the advantage of your assistance, (which you may be assured, I wish for of all things, if not contrary to your interest,) we ought to go together, and not be separated on any account, such as preparing the way, or for other purposes, which may be suggested by the vivacity of our friend, who accompanied you to Shooter's Hill. If you succeed in the object of your present expedition into Italy, I have little doubt of our making our own way much better by ourselves, than by the aid or interposition of the people at Canton.

—I have had many disagreeable things relative to this business, and applications without number to be of our party to China; but I have uniformly resisted, though I fear I have given offence by doing so. However; as my meaning is, that the thing should be arranged as it ought, and in the manner most likely to produce the effect, I hope it will be seen in that light, and when properly understood, be ultimately approved. I trust you will be more successful at Naples, than you were at Paris. And, from what Dutens tells me, there would seem to be but little doubt of it. He says there are always at the college several young Chinese, and that the people at the head of it would be glad to have such a good opportunity of sending them back—If so, you should take two, at least, of the most promising—Sir W. Hamilton will help you, I dare say, as well as he can—I own I build much on your endeavours; for if you fail, I doubt we shall not be able to find the proper subjects in this hemisphere. There is no one at Gottenburg, Copenhagen, or Lisbon, that we can hear of, fit for the purpose. Galbert was a worthless fellow, in all respects but one; but he was very fit for the chief thing required—He understood the language well—I despair of meeting people, who possess *all* the qualities we wish, so we must not be too difficult.

Adieu, very truly your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXVII.

Sir George L. Staunton, Bart. to B. C. Collins, esq.
(Anno Ætatis 56.)

Cologne, May 9th 1792.

Dear Sir,

I received the favor of your letter of the 17th of April; and lament exceedingly that your ideas differ in some measure from mine, as to my Chinese expedition; at which however I am the less surprized, because the difference arises from a different computation of the dangers you suppose to attend it. Whereas it appears to me, that very little less danger, and so little as not to be estimated, subsists with regard to those who stay in Europe, from those who sail to China in a large man of war. Not one in a thousand of such is lost at sea; and of those, a much less proportion of the crew or passengers, is lost.—With regard to the excesses of heat or cold, it is only the sailors, soldiers, or military people, and the poor, who are exposed to suffer materially from the excess of heat or cold any where: and in our expedition we shall, for the most part, reside in a very moderate and healthy climate. As to my health, I can assure you, fatigue and travel agree with it; and after a hard winter's journey across the Alps, I am now returning to England, every way in better health than when I left it, nor have I any more doubt of returning alive and well from China, together with your nephew, than

I now have of presenting him to you, in a few days, in London. The only thing I have on earth to make me unhappy now, is that of not seeing your sister reconciled to the journey, which so many others of the first rank in the kingdom wish, in vain, to procure for their children. Except the pain of separation, which *we* shall feel as well as she, every other circumstance is favorable to her: friends, affluence, consideration, and the comfort that her husband and son are gone upon an honorable, advantageous, and curious expedition; relative to which, I must beg to assure you, that so far from any promise to embark in it, having been extorted from me, the friend to whom you allude, was the very person who conveyed to me the proposals from the chairman of the India Company, to go (not upon the Embassy, but) as president of the Supervision to Canton, adding, that it would be much more lucrative than any thing I could expect in the Embassy. But I preferred the latter, as answering better my ideas for my darling boy. I beg you will remove any wrong ideas on this subject, from your sister's mind: That you may be able to restore her to her wonted tranquillity, and that she may be resigned to this temporary separation, is the fervent wish of,

dear sir,

your affectionate brother and servant,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CXVIII.

The KING, to the Princes of Asia.*

(To be delivered by Sir George L. Staunton, in the event of the death or absence of Lord Viscount Macartney.)

His most sacred Majesty, GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Sovereign of the seas, Defender of the Faith and so forth; to the Princes and states to whom these presents shall come, greeting:—

The natural disposition of a great and benevolent Sovereign, whom Providence has seated upon a throne for the good of mankind, is, to watch over the peace and security of his dominions, and to take pains for disseminating happiness, virtue, and knowledge, among his subjects, extending also the same beneficence with all the peaceful arts, as far as he is able, to the whole human race. Impressed with such sentiments from the beginning of our reign; when we found our people engaged in war, we granted to our enemies, after obtaining victories over them in the four quarters of the world, the blessings of peace upon the most equitable conditions.

* This letter, with the exception of what immediately related to Sir George, is nearly a transcript of that which was actually delivered to the Emperor of China by Lord Macartney.—All the more important official documents of the Chinese embassy, and even the embassador's instructions from the minister, were drawn up by Sir George; and afford an evidence both of his own excellent style and judgment, and of the liberal and enlightened spirit in which the expedition was undertaken by the British Government.

Since that period, not satisfied with promoting the prosperity of our own subjects in every respect, and beyond the example of any former times, We have taken various opportunities of fitting out ships, and sending in them some of the most wise and learned of our own people, for the discovery of distant and unknown regions; not for the purpose of conquest, or of enlarging our dominions, which are already sufficiently extensive for all our wishes; not for the purpose of acquiring wealth, or even of favoring the commerce of our subjects; but for the sake of encreasing our knowledge of the habitable globe, of finding out the various productions of the earth, and for communicating the arts and comforts of life, to those parts, where they were hitherto little known: and We have since sent vessels, with the animals and vegetables most useful to man, to islands and places, where it appeared they had been previously wanting.

We have been still more anxious to enquire into the arts and manners of countries, where civilization has been perfected by the wise ordinances and virtuous examples of their sovereigns, through a long series of ages; and now that We have, by prudence and justice, avoided the calamities of war, into which discord and ambition have plunged most of the other kingdoms of Europe, and that, by engaging our allies in Hindostan to put an end to the hostilities, occasioned by the attack of an ambitious neighbour, even when it was in our power to destroy him, we have the happiness of being at peace with all the world, no time can be so propitious for extending the bounds of friendship

and benevolence, and for proposing to communicate and receive those benefits, which must result from an unreserved and amicable intercourse between great and civilized nations. Our subjects have also been desirous of sometimes frequenting the coasts of your dominions for the purposes of trade. No doubt the interchange of commodities, between nations distantly situated, tends to their mutual convenience, industry, and wealth; as the blessings which the great God of Heaven has conferred upon various soils and climates, are thus distributed among his creatures, scattered over the surface of the earth. But such an intercourse requires to be properly conducted; so that the new comers may not infringe the laws and customs of the country they visit, and that, on the other hand, they may be received on terms of hospitality, and meet the justice and protection due to strangers. We are indeed equally desirous to restrain our subjects from doing evil, or even of shewing ill example in any foreign country, as we are that they should receive no injury in it. If such an intercourse should be agreeable to you, proper regulations on the subject may be made by a person immediately authorised by us, to treat with you upon the same. By such means every misunderstanding may be prevented, every inconvenience removed, a firm and lasting friendship cemented, and a return of mutual good offices secured between our respective empires.

All these considerations have determined us to send abroad a minister Plenipotentiary, on this occasion: and willing to make choice for this purpose, of a person worthy of representing us, We have fixed upon our trusty

and well-beloved Sir George Staunton, Baronet, Honorary Doctor of Laws of our University of Oxford, and Fellow of our Royal Society of London for the promotion of natural knowledge, as a gentleman of wisdom and knowledge, who hath already served us with fidelity and zeal, as a Member of our honorable Council, and Colonel of Militia, in some of our Dominions in the West-Indies, and appointed by us, our Attorney-General, in the same, and hath since exercised with ability and success, the office of commissioner for treating and making peace with Tippoo Sultan, one of the most considerable Princes of Hindostan, to be Minister Plenipotentiary to your august person, with credentials, under our great Seal; for whom we entreat a gracious reception, and attention to his representations in our name.

We rely on your wisdom and justice, and general benevolence to mankind, that you will please to allow our minister and representative at your court, to have the opportunity of contemplating the example of your virtues, and too btain such information of your institutions, as may enable him to enlighten our people on his return; He, on our part, being directed to give as far as you shall please to desire it, a full and free communication of any art, science, or observation, either of use or curiosity, which the industry, ingenuity, and experience of Europeans may have enabled them to acquire; and also that you will be pleased to allow to any of our subjects frequenting the coasts of your dominions, and conducting themselves with propriety, a secure residence there, and a fair access to your

markets, under such laws and regulations as you shall think right, and that their lives and properties shall be safe under your protection; that one man shall not suffer for the crime of another, in which he did not participate, and whose evasion from justice he did not assist, but that every measure shall be taken on the part of your government, (as our minister is instructed strictly to direct to be taken on the part of our people,) to seize and bring to condign punishment any of our subjects transgressing the laws or good order of your country, or disturbing the peace and friendship subsisting between us.

We have particularly instructed our minister to take every method in his power to mark our regard and friendly disposition towards you, and it will give us the utmost satisfaction to learn that our wishes in that respect, have been amply complied with, and that, as we are brethren in Sovereignty, so a brotherly affection may ever subsist between us—May the Almighty have you in his holy protection.

Given at our court, at St. James's, in London, the 26th of August, in the year of our LORD, 1792, and in the 32nd year of our reign.

Vester Bonus Frater et Amicus,

GEORGIUS R.

CXIX.

Sir Geo. L. Staunton, Bart. to Arthur Piggott, esq. (afterwards Sir A. Piggott.)

Harley Street, Sept. 21st, 1792.

Dear Sir,

I am not surprised at your being kept at East Bourne, on account of the poor people, who are fled from massacre. These are shocking scenes; but what a bad government, that left people in such a want of all moral education or principle, as to render them capable of such barbarities! and by a long train of oppression has, I fear, provoked the commission of them!—

—There is a likelihood of my getting a very good purchase, in Ireland, which will bring me in full five ℔ cent, and a chance of a rise. But it is not quite certain that any property, real or personal, will be long permanent any where. There is a ferment and revolution in the minds of the lower orders of the people.—The longer we resist partial and moderate changes, the more violent will be the convulsion at last. The real happiness of mankind will be, I would fain hope, the *final* result of the present struggles—what I dread most, is the shocking and tygrous tyranny of Marat and Robespierre.

I am, your's &c.

George Leonard Staunton.

CXX.

Arthur Piggott, esq. (afterwards Sir A. Piggott) to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

London, Dec. 16th, 1792.

My dear Sir,

As a packet is to be dispatched to-morrow, to China, I cannot let slip the opportunity of giving you a few lines. To detail to you the extraordinary events, which have taken place since you left us, would be only to repeat the newspapers, of which I hope you will have a plentiful and regular supply.—The successes of the French have not only confounded their enemies, but have astonished the world—Men, supposed to be without any of the resources necessary to war, have not only defeated the best troops in the world, but have spread their conquests all round them; and now the cry of, What can such banditti do? is changed into the question, Where will they stop?

You will see that the emperor's government is completely overthrown in Flanders, and that that country is organizing a government for itself. Savoy is formed into an 84th department; Nice is in their possession, and a naval force, with a considerable body of troops, is in the Mediterranean. Holland is threatened, and the danger to that republic, or perhaps, to speak with more propriety, to the stadholder's interest in it, together with the orders given by the executive council of France, to M. Dumourier, to open the Scheld, make

us apprehensive of an immediate war between this country and France.

Those who wished the former enemies of France baffled in their wicked attempts upon the independence of that country, have had the mortification of seeing the French cause stained by the most shocking excesses in Paris, by the most disgraceful divisions among the leading men there, and last of all, by the most savage disposition towards the persons of the king and his family; and these have produced such an effect here, that of all those who wished well to France, few indeed can now be found who venture to raise their voice in its favor. Her cause is much out of favor in this country, and if people saw nothing in a war, but ill to France, I am persuaded that, at this moment, a more popular measure could not be entered upon. But, I believe, there are not many, who do not look at the approach of war with anxiety. Its events are uncertain. Some of its consequences are inevitable, and those are not light evils; besides what else may follow. We cannot wound France upon the Continent: We may make an impression on her islands, and annoy her trade; but should she make a great marine exertion, (and who dares say she will not,) we also have islands to lose, and trade to be annoyed.

Within the three days that Parliament has sat, Mr. Fox has made great exertions to open the eyes of the nation, through the medium of Parliament, to the impolicy and danger of such a war; in which we have no object of our own in dispute, and which we are to undertake for an ally that we cannot save, if the French

are determined. He has been opposed in these efforts by part of the old opposition, faintly supported by others, and cordially and warmly sustained, only by Sheridan, Grey, and that set, which lean to the reform of parliament. It is said with great confidence, and the report is much countenanced by appearances, that Lord Loughborough, Lord Carlisle, Lord Stormont, Lord Porchester, and some others, are to join the ministry during the holidays, and that the first is to be chancellor.—Adieu, your's most sincerely,

ARTHUR PIGGOTT.

CXXI.

Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. to Sir Geo. L. Staunton, Bart.

Soho Square, Feb. 24th 1793.

My dear Sir George,

Three of your favors are come to hand; the first from Madeira, Oct. 14th, the second from Teneriffe, Oct. 23d, and the third from Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 9th, 1792, for all which I beg to return you my best thanks. I rejoice with real sincerity, to learn, from all quarters, not only that every thing relative to your undertaking prospers, but that under the mild and well considered government of the embassador, all persons feel themselves contented and satisfied with each other.

Your box of specimens is in my hands, and, except the animals, it has fared well in the passage. Unfortunately, you had packed up with them three or four

living animals of *Dermestes Sardonius*, the worst of all enemies to ornithological collections; and their progeny, some of whom I caught in the fact, have eaten up the bat, and much damaged the three birds. I have, however, aired them in an oven to kill the remains, if any there are, of the vermin, and enclosed them in a glass stoppered bottle, where they will remain safe, till you and your son return to unpack them.

Among the plants from St. Iago, some were very interesting—a new species of *Forskohlea*, the *Epibaterium* of Forster, and a new *Mesembryanthemum* are among the number. There is also a most remarkable grass, and some more plants that are not yet examined. I shall carefully send them to Lady Staunton, and rob your son's collection as little as may be; marking always, however, if I do take a specimen, that I have done so, in order that he may know where to find it, if he wants to consult it.

I have ventured to make a little inroad among your land-snails, but have left plenty of both species. I mean to give, in your name, one of each to Mr. Neale, who collects them; by which I shall lay him under much obligation to you, without robbing you, for you will have six of each remaining.

The Ipecacuanha arrived safe; but, as you say, it is not in fruit or in flower. I suspect the Rio naturalists do not like to let us know what it is, for Governor Philip sent it home in exactly the same state.

We are tolerably quiet here, though our situation is somewhat tremendous. The French nation are certainly in a state of canine madness, very desirous of

biting all mankind, and by that means infecting them with the disease they themselves are vexed with. I conceive them like a pack of mad fox-hounds, who cannot beconfined to their kennel; and I feel sometimes a kind of horror, least they should infect too many of the quiet animals who are feeding round them.

All your friends here are well, and all desire to be particularly remembered to you. Things in general go on pleasantly in philosophy. The Royal Society black-balled Count Andreani, for a suspicion of republican principles, which, I believe, was ill-founded, and I am verily of opinion, that if Sir Isaac Newton had held republican language, all the influence I have could not procure him three votes as a Fellow.

Believe me, my dear sir,
your obliged and faithful servant,
Jos. Banks.

CXXII.

Sir George L. Staunton, Bart. to Dr. Egan.

Bentinck Street, Dec. 28th, 1794.

Dear Sir,

I had yesterday the favor of your letter, of the 18th instant, and also one from Mr. ———, my agent, to you.—He clearly appears dissatisfied that I should make any observations upon his accounts; and yet if I am not to have this liberty, when done in a fair and candid manner, it is of no sort of use to send any account, but merely to remit the balance without one.

Whether I made my observations (well or ill-founded) in a decent and candid manner, will appear from your recollection, that when I transmitted those observations to you, the mutual friend of both, I particularly expressed to you in the same letter, that I was aware, that being really ignorant of the business of estates, and being also absent from the spot, my observations might very possibly be without any foundation, and that I might be totally mistaken in regard to them; that, in such case I requested of you to suppress them entirely, and that, only in case you should happen to find they were well founded, I wished you to give a hint of them to Mr. ———. Such a cautious and delicate mode of procedure on my part, was not, I humbly conceive, calculated to give offence.—

Mr. ———— indeed has given me heart-felt consolation, by saying that he has brought almost all the peasantry of my estate, who before were wretched, into a state of respectable yeomanry.—I am happy at this circumstance, through whatsoever means it was effected; but I own I should have naturally supposed that, as I had always written to you that I desired all sorts of tenderness and indulgence should be shewn to my poor tenants; that I always remitted any rent due by them, and ordered them any recompence that you informed me would be serviceable to them; that, as I was not on the spot myself, and therefore could not know what might contribute to better their condition, I more than once wrote to you upon the subject, requesting you would find out and suggest the best means of serving them, and that

I was ready and willing to be at an annual expence for the same; that when you mentioned to me that it might be of essential use to them to have advances made to them of flax seed, at a low price, I immediately desired such advances to be made, and the price taken out in labor, when most convenient to the peasant; that, when I found the pittance each of them was to pay to the parish priest, as it was to be paid in cash, was, however trifling, yet seriously felt by them, I immediately assumed upon myself the payment of such dues to the parish priest, though not of his persuasion; so that the peasants might attend in future at their devotions without either the regret of having to pay for them, or the reproach of not having paid: from all the above circumstances, I certainly had fondly fancied, until I received Mr. ———'s letter, which attributes the change for the better, in the condition of my peasants, entirely to his own exertions, that I must have had some little share *myself* in any such alteration*.—

I am, &c.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

* Sir George, though unavoidably an absentee, was always a most kind and indulgent landlord—His agent had, however, assumed to himself an exclusive merit in respect to the tenants under his charge, to which he was by no means enitiled, in order to excuse his omissions on other points; Sir George was therefore compelled to recapitulate what he had actually done himself for the tenants, in refutation of his agent's pretensions.

CXXIII.

The same to the VICEROY *of* CANTON*.

London, June 20th, 1795.

SIR GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON, Baronet, Doctor of Laws of the University of Oxford, Fellow of the Royal Society of London, to His Excellency, CHANG-TA-ZHIN, Viceroy of the provinces of Canton and Quansee, guardian of the children of the Emperor, &c. &c. &c.

Since I took my leave of you at Canton, my thoughts have been always bent upon returning to China this year. The Earl of Macartney and myself told your Excellency, that we entertained no doubt, but that our master, the King of Great Britain, would send another embassador to the court of Pekin, agreeably to the wish of his Imperial Majesty; and we thought it most probable that, as I had been from the beginning appointed to succeed Lord Macartney, I should be chosen to go again to the sublime presence, especially as from my experience during the first Embassy, I was acquainted with the customs and manners of the court of Pekin, and of the Chinese empire. And I believe I should be now preparing to set out on this

* This Letter, which was written *officially*, and presented to the Chinese viceroy by the British authorities, resident at Canton, early in the following year, confirms the fact alluded to in the Memoir, p. 46, that it was in the contemplation of his Majesty's Government to have appointed Sir George L. Staunton, (had his health permitted) to return to China, as sole embassador, for the purpose of following up the success, while it was yet time, of the first embassy under Lord Macartney.

journey, if the state of my health had allowed it. But I have suffered very much by illness, since my return to Europe. I am however mending; and now confidently hope, that I shall have the happiness of seeing you at Canton next year; and be ready to pay my obeisance to his Imperial Majesty, on his eighty-sixth birth day, as I did on his eighty-third. The more the King of Great Britain has heard, in consequence of the first embassy, of the splendid virtues of his Imperial Majesty, the more he is desirous of forming as strict an alliance of friendship with him, as can subsist between monarchs inspired with the same sentiments of regard for their people, and guided with the same wisdom in promoting their happiness. Nothing can more contribute to the union of such great sovereigns, than the benevolence of one of them to the subjects of the other. This cannot fail to happen, while you continue in the government of Canton, where I fervently hope to find you when I shall arrive there. In the mean time, I pray for the continuance of your health and welfare.

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CXXIV.

Earl Macartney to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Verona, Dec. 20th, 1795.

Dear Sir George,

I should not have been so long in returning you my thanks for your very obliging letters, but I waited from post to post, in hopes of being able to send

you something better than thanks. The little that was in my power, Mr. Maxwell will have forwarded to you; and if, in rummaging the few papers that I brought with me, I can find any thing more, which I imagine can be of the least use, or curiosity to you, relative to China, I shall certainly not fail to transmit it: but in truth, I have had little leisure of late, on account of a very extensive correspondence, which engages a large portion of my time to entertain, and which I have been led into by degrees, far beyond what I had imagined when I came here, but as I don't love to do things by halves, I must continue it, till I am regularly relieved; how soon that may be, I am not as yet able to say, but I trust it is not very distant, as my situation is neither pleasant, nor lucrative, and considering the places I have already filled elsewhere, not very eminent. I I have, however, not hinted any thing of this to my employers, because if they think any little services I might be capable of rendering, to be useful, or necessary, I certainly shall not withhold them, on account of personal considerations, or private convenience*.—

—Mr. Maxwell will probably have written you an account of our excursion into Tuscany, and to other places. I saw young Lord Holland, at Florence, who is a remarkably clever and agreeable young man. He is a little of a democrate, but few people argue *so right* as he does on the *wrong side* of a question. I dont think him likely soon to return to England, and I hope

* Lord Macartney's appointment was understood to be a secret mission to Louis XVIII at that time residing, and holding a court, at Verona.

he will not, as he is in a course of much greater improvement where he is, than he could possibly be at White's or Brookes's. He is a great friend and favorite of Fontana, who gave us the most satisfactory lecture in anatomy of four or five hours, that I ever heard.—Our museum in Great Russel Street is quite a paltry collection, in many essential parts, when compared either to that of Florence or Bologna. Adieu; I am, with every kind remembrance to your family,

dear Sir George,

very sincerely yours,

MACARTNEY.

CXXV.

The same to the same.

Verona, Jan. 10th, 1796.

Dear Sir George,

The sketch of Marco Polo's map, on which is delineated the track of his travels, I hope has already reached your hands in safety. Considering the age in which it was drawn, and the imperfect state of science at that period, it seems much nearer to the truth than I could have expected. You will observe that Tien-sing *(Città celeste)* is laid down as being a very large city in those days. You will also find Tong-shou in it, with a slight variation of orthography; also Pekin *(Cambalu)* and some other places, nearly as they are really situated. The island of Tsong-ming does not appear to have been then yet formed, but the great wall, at least in part, certainly

existed, when Marco Polo wrote, as it is marked to the north-east of Pekin, where it begins in the sea.—Perhaps it was continued since his time, to its present termination in the south-west, and that the sole reason of his not mentioning it was, that he had not crossed it, or seen it in his route from Tartary, his road being always within it.

I have three letters of your's now to thank you for, as also the inclosures, from China. The Dutch account of that country will, I dare say, be a miserable performance, as their embassadors don't appear to have received the same honors and distinctions that we did; and indeed, from the shabby manner in which they conducted the business, they could not expect them. By the Emperor's receiving them, however, at all, it is evident that he continues disposed, at least *a la Chinoise*, towards an intercourse with Europeans; which, as we have been always persuaded, must terminate at last in the permission of a constant residence of a minister among them. The delay of sending a second embassy from England, will however, I am afraid, render it, whenever it shall be sent, of less importance and benefit, than might have been hoped for, as our friend, the viceroy, will probably have left Canton, and may be employed in some distant part of the empire, out of our reach, or of a likelihood of being useful to us*. It would have been a great satisfaction

* The predictions of Lord Macartney, respecting the unfavorable effect of delay, upon any plan for the renewal of our diplomatic intercourse with China, has since been fully verified—Nevertheless, the second embassy, under Lord Amherst, was far from fruitless; but the good

to me to have heard some news of him, and of our other worthy friends, Suntagin, Vantagin, and Choutagin; as, though I shall never see them again, I still feel myself strongly interested in their welfare; and I have so good an opinion of them, that I dare say it would give them equal pleasure to learn some account of us.

I shall write to Sir William Hamilton what you say, with regard to the young Catechumen's effects, and add the proper civil things from you and my friend George; who together with my Lady Staunton is, I hope, as well as I wish them both to be. I beg my kind remembrance to them, and at same time, beg you to tell Mr. Hüttner and Mr. Barrow, that I always recollect them with pleasure. I am afraid that Mr. R. does not recollect me, as you say nothing of any attention shewn by him to Mr. Barrow. I don't imagine, that there is the least foundation for the honors you say are talked of for a certain great author of our acquaintance; and as for the other person, whom you are so good as to

which it did produce arose chiefly, if not entirely, from that very circumstance, which, in the eyes of superficial observers, characterize it as a failure—namely, the non-performance of the Chinese ceremony.

Even, had the audience been granted to the English on their own terms, they would have gained nothing thereby beyond what the former embassy had already accomplished; for it was announced to them, that they were to be dismissed from the court, at any rate, in six days. Any negotiation therefore for privileges, or for redress of grievances, would have been out of the question—whereas the firm and undaunted adherence of the embassador to just principles, under such trying circumstances, has done more good to the British trade, by the impression it has given of the British character in China, than any negotiation, however protracted, was at all likely to have effected.

interest yourself about, I believe they are as little thought of for him. I have had no public letters from England for several posts past, but I observe by the newspapers, that there is much talk of peace in England, upon an idea that France is now more perceptible of negotiation than formerly. I have not had such opportunities as others, of knowing myself how that is, but I know, that the requisitionary regimen is still as arbitrary and violent there as ever.—There are certain governments still remaining in Europe, that are called despotic, but it contains no country, where *tyranny* is actually exercised, but France; and this is so well known to the tyrants themselves, that they don't even affect to deny it, but attempt to obviate the charge, by pretending that the present tyranny is a necessary vehicle for future liberty: but such impudent cant is now swallowed by nobody.—I doubt much whether the French character is well suited to the republican form. Perhaps the monarchical, notwithstanding all objections, will be found the best for most nations, and the French might certainly have it on a good model, but whether *they* will ever be wise enough for that, I am not wise enough to know. If they are not, it will not be the fault of others, but their own, and they only are answerable for the continuance of the miseries of their country. Louis XVIII. has, I believe, as good an understanding, perhaps as much information, and certainly more virtue, than any of the five kings in the executive directory of Paris; and adversity seems to have wrought the proper effect upon his mind, to have improved, and not exasperated him. He speaks

of the principal persons concerned in the revolution, without any appearance of rancour, and of the revolution itself, with a degree of calmness and dispassion, that one could scarcely expect.—I own my favorable sentiments of him; I have seen him almost every day for these five months past, stripped of all those trappings which dazzle common minds, and have only to say, that if I am imposed upon, he is the most consummate hypocrite that ever was born in purple.—

—I see old Thurlow is brandishing his crab-stick in opposition, but I don't imagine to much effect.—The public are not always disposed to mistake bad humour for good principles, and if he does not go all lengths, which he won't do, he is not fit for the purpose of an opposition, which will hereafter be different in all probability from any that we have yet seen. The die seems to be cast.—I can't help thinking, that we shall soon have a new parliament, though I have not a syllable from home to guide my conjectures, but I have a sort of presentiment of it, and perhaps it may be a wise measure. You, who are on the spot, can judge of it, and tell me your opinion. Pray, what is Sir John Day looking for?—I read a speech of his in the papers, but whether an original, or an imitation of his manner, I don't seriously know.—Adieu.

I am ever, very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXXVI.

Sir George L. Staunton, Bart. to his Son.*

Devonshire Street, Aug. 5th, 1796.

I have taken into my head, my dear George, to scribble to you a few lines. They are scarcely meant to form a letter, and require no answer. If, at any time, you should happen, to fill up some moments of leisure, to scratch some broken sentences to your mother or me, I need not say how very welcome they will be to both of us; but let writing to us be no load upon your mind, or interfere with your parties or amusements. We shall hear of you by the kindness of your cousin, Miss Brodie; we know that you are with friends, that will take such care of you; you are in so pleasant and healthy a situation; and we depend so much upon your own prudence, that we shall not be at all uneasy about your welfare.

* The attention of Sir George having been so much devoted to the subject of education, during the latter years of his life; and the peculiarity, in some respects, of the system which he adopted, having at that period attracted not only the attention, but the criticism, of many who were little able to estimate the wisdom and excellence of his views, the Editor conceives that he ought not to suffer any false notions of modesty to restrain him from inserting a few documents, in illustration of so interesting and amiable a portion of his parent's character.

His just and profound remarks on the *Theory* of Education, which were accidentally found recorded in his private note-book, have been inserted p. 316; and this, and two or three of the following letters, will sufficiently prove the inimitable gentleness, and benignity of tone and temper, with which, eight years afterwards, he sought to carry his ideas on the subject into practice.

—The China ships are just arrived, and I have the great pleasure of informing you, that your translations into the Chinese language, of the King's letter to the Emperor, &c. were perfectly understood, and found to correspond with the original English. The King's letter was received with great solemnity and firing of guns, and immediately dispatched to the emperor.—The general letter from China mentions, that his Imperial Majesty positively means to resign the throne, at the new year, to his fifteenth son. The circumstance of a new emperor has revived the idea of a new Embassy to China. But our book must be published first, and I am busy at it.

By the bye, I had the other day a very curious letter from Sir Erasmus Gower, in which he "congratulates me, on the offer made to me to be governor of Madras, and conveys the anxious wish of our old ship-mate, ——— to have the honor of carring me to my government." That gentleman, I suppose, expressing some very anxious wish to be a post-captain, some wag must have suggested to him that he might become so, by carring out a governor to India, and that I, with whom Sir Erasmus Gower was very intimate, was going governor to Madras. It must be some such joke that led to the story told to Sir Erasmus; as nothing like it was in the least probable, or even worthy of a newspaper paragraph.—Adieu, for the present,

my dear George,

most affectionately your's,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON*.

* The concluding paragraph is extracted from a *subsequent* letter of the 17th Nov. 1797.

CXXVII.

The same to the same.

Devonshire Street, Sept. 2, 1796.

As your mother wrote to you yesterday, my dear George, I did not mean to trouble you with my Friday's scroll; but, as your cousin Peter is going to leave us to-night, in order to set out very early from the inn to-morrow on his way to Winterslow, I cannot refrain from writing a few lines, principally to tell you what a very good opinion I have formed of the bearer of my letter; he appears to me really to be an excellent young man—well disposed, modest, already well informed in many things, and desirous of knowing more. I think it a fortunate circumstance for you to have so many cousins, with whom you can associate, with pleasure and advantage, and in perfect safety. I now acknowledge, and thank you, for the affectionate and well written letter I received from you a few days ago. Were I to form to myself a model of the kind of letter I would wish you to write, it would be no other than what you do write, plain and unaffected style, correct language, propriety of thought. The mind shews itself in epistolary writing.

Your mother and I wish and are happy that you should take exercise, and relax in every amusement you fancy, but we both fear very seriously for your extending your walks too far at any one time. You are naturally delicate; you have not been accustomed to long walks. We hope and request you will not again go to such a distance, in any future walk, as Dean

Hill; going there and returning from it, is about twelve miles. I should almost apprehend it would be too much even for your cousins, though they have the advantage of being in the habit of much exercise.—Fond as I am also, my dear George, of your improvement and perfection in every branch, I begin to fear and be alarmed for too intense an application, on your part, to intense studies. Fluxions ought to be attacked very gently and sparingly; even your amusement of chess requires strong exertion of thought. You have laid such a foundation of all kinds of knowledge, that you can go on leisurely for the future. I am very much pleased at your reading Italian, and such an excellent work too as that of Beccaria. Mr. Hüttner, your tutor, will expect to find you improved in that language, and in the German. I had a letter from Mr. Barrow, expressing the great pleasure he received from the one you wrote to him. I expect him in town in a day or two. Lord Macartney is arrived in town from Ireland, and talks of sailing for the Cape of Good Hope, about the first of October. Mr. Barrow is to accompany him. I am sure you would wish to see him before he goes.—

—You have now a numerous correspondence on your hands. Do not think of writing to me for some time, but always believe me to be ever,

my dear George,

most affectionately your's,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CXXVIII.

The same to the same.

Devonshire Street, Nov. 8, 1796.

My dear George,

As you have never been at Brighton, you will see part of the country leading to it, for the first time. It will be worth while to attend to whatever may be seen from the carriage, and in the places where you will stop. While upon the road therefore, it may be advisable to give up in great measure any very interesting conversation with your mother and uncle, in which you can fully indulge at Brighton, lest you should be distracted from observing carefully whatever may be seen on the journey. You can see more, and better and easier than others, because your mind is stored with knowledge, and your eyes exercised to observation. The face of the country, the surface of the earth, it's mineralogical composition, the culture, the state of the poor, the manners, the manufactures, &c. &c. &c. This recommendation, I believe, after all, is to you superfluous, but flows from the affection of,

my dear George,

ever your's,

George Leonard Staunton.

CXXIX.

The same to the same. (Anno Ætatis 61.)

July 27th, 1797.

Accept, my dear George, a copy, though plainly bound, of my account of the Embassy, in drawing up which, the great pleasure I enjoyed, and which amply compensated for every trouble and difficulty that attended the work, was the opportunity it afforded me of recording a few of the early instances of the talents and virtues of my ever dearest friend, whom to be known, it was not necessary to name.

I am, for ever, my dear George,
most affectionately your's,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CXXX.

The Duke of Portland to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Burlington House,
Friday evening, 28th July, 1797.

The Duke of Portland cannot express, in terms which do justice to the sense he entertains of Sir George Staunton's attention to him, how highly he is flattered and obliged by the very magnificent and interesting present, which Sir George was so good as to send him yesterday.

He should have thought himself fortunate in being able by any means to make so valuable an acquisition, as Sir George's account of the Embassy to China; but when

he reflects upon the manner in which he has become possessed of it, and that he cannot allow himself to imagine that he is entitled to it from any private consideration, he cannot but be the more gratified by the testimony it affords him of Sir George Staunton's sentiments, and cannot but feel a considerable degree of mortification in not having any other mode of making his acknowledgments to Sir George, than by requesting Sir George to accept his best and most cordial thanks.

CXXXI.

Sir John Macpherson, Bart. to the same.

Ely Farm, near Tunbridge Wells,
30th July, 1797.

My dear Sir George,

I shall read with great pleasure, and I am sure with profit, the work which you have been pleased to give me. The manner in which you have given it will add, if possible, to that pleasure.

I can truly say, that whenever I have had the happiness of enjoying your company, whether at Madras, Calcutta, Rome, or London, my desire to enjoy more of it was continually encreasing: it will therefore be a real treat to me to follow you to Pekin, and find myself in the different situations of your very interesting voyage: but my greatest satisfaction will be to find you in restored health, on my return to London, being with real esteem,

your's most faithfully,
JOHN MACPHERSON.

Vignette from Sir G. L. Staunton's Account of Lord Macartney's Embassy to China.

CXXXII.

The Marquis of Lothian to the same.

Farnham, Aug. 6th, 1797.

Sir,

I have this instant received your most valuable and magnificent present, for which I send you my sincerest thanks. It is the more valuable to me, as it gives me the truest satisfaction to find that you retain me in your memory; no man can be more flattered than myself, by your obliging recollection, for no man can respect it more. I shall read the work with the greatest avidity and attention: I am convinced it will afford me the greatest pleasure imaginable.

I am sure you will be pleased at the very rapid rise of my son, your fellow traveller, whom Lord St. Vincent, the day after his glorious victory, appointed to the command of the St. Nicholas, and he is now made post-captain.

May I entreat of you, when you write to Lord Macartney, to send him my best and most respectful compliments. I request of you to believe that I ever am, with the truest esteem,

your faithful and ever
obliged humble servant.
LOTHIAN.

CXXXIII.

Warren Hastings, esq. to the same.

Daylesford House, 8th Aug. 1797.

Sir,

I received your magnificent present this morning, and return you many thanks for it; at the same time disclaiming any title to it, on the grounds on which you have been pleased to allow it, further than the wish which I sincerely felt, to render your short stay in Calcutta agreeable to you, and yet more to contribute my part towards accomplishing the beneficent and conciliatory purpose of your visit.

I have long and anxiously looked for the publication of your valuable work, and can assure you, that it was my intention on this very day to have written for a set, my bookseller having by this morning's post informed me that it was to be out in the course of this week.—I promise myself much entertainment and instruction from it.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
you much obliged and
most obedient servant,
WARREN HASTINGS.

CXXXIV.

William, Marquis of Lansdown, to the same.

Bowood Park, Aug. 15th, 1797.

Sir,

The gout in my hand makes it impossible for me to thank you with my own hand, for the honor of your letter, accompanied with the magnificent present of your Voyage to China, which has alleviated the gout, by the instruction and amusement which it conveys, expressed in a style uncommonly clear. It opens a new world to the public; and I make no doubt will be the parent of great enterprise, and of great acquisitions, commercial and literary.

I hope your health is quite re-established, and that by the loss of Dr. Crawford, you have only suffered that of a friend; if however, you should have occasion to return to Bath, I hope you will make this your road: if you will bring your amiable, as well as sensible son with you, though we can add little to his store of knowledge, I shall be very glad to assure both you and him of the regard and esteem with which I am,

Sir,

your obedient humble servant,

LANSDOWN.

CXXXV.

The Earl of Moira (now Marquis of Hastings) to the same.

Montalto, Ballynahinch,
Sept. 2nd, 1797.

My dear Sir,

When I left Dublin, I did not come hither by the direct road; but made a circuit to see my sister in the county of Longford. Purposing to stay with her but a couple of days, I had ordered my letters to be forwarded hither from town: and, as I was seduced from day to day into a long delay with my sister, those letters had to wait some time for my arrival. It is this circumstance which makes me so tardy in my acknowledgment for your very polite and and obliging recollection of me, in sending your Book to St. James's Place. I am very anxious to see a portrait of that interesting empire, drawn by a hand which I know to be masterly enough to represent every feature with strength and with perfect truth.—To the intrinsic value of the performance, you have added the further gratification for me in the possession of the Book, that it will always remind me of a compliment received from one whose civilities are flattering. Accept, my dear Sir, my best thanks: and believe that I have the honor to be, with high esteem,

your very obedient
and humble servant,
MOIRA.

CXXXVI.

Earl Macartney to the same.

Castle of Good Hope,
Dec. 15th, 1797.

Dear Sir George,

The China ships now sailing from hence for England afford me an opportunity of thanking you, which I do very sincerely, for your letter and the parcel by Sir Henry Russel, who arrived here a few days since in the Earl Fitzwilliam. I have not as yet had a moment to look into those last sheets of the China Embassy you sent me, for I am so busy in making up my packets for the office, that it is not without difficulty I can command time enough to write you this short letter.—I flatter myself that I shall be allowed to return home next summer. Indeed my health has so much declined, and the attacks of the gout are so frequent of late in my head and stomach, that I feel almost confiscated, and incapable of attending to business as formerly. I should hope that matters here are already so far advanced, and will be so much farther advanced before I leave this place, that our future possession of it may be somewhat the better for my government of it.

I understand from my last letters, that the French party in England is rather losing ground, and that the sincerity of our ministers is no longer doubted as to the desire of making peace; and that being the case, it seems singular enough that we can't obtain it, espe-

cially as we are now disencumbered of allies. England herself never made a greater figure; she has been victorious every where, has almost annihilated the navies of France, Spain, and Holland, has made conquests from them of almost every place she ought to wish for, and that without losing an inch of her own territory.—If the present rulers, under whom these successes have been gained, cannot make peace, I doubt much, whether any others could make such an one as would please the people.—But enough of this, I have done with politics for ever, when I set my foot on board to leave this place.—

March 2d, 1798.—My health continues to be very indifferent. I am now past sixty, and four and thirty years warfare with different climates, from the arctic circle to the equator, have loaded me with infirmities, which I don't believe even a total cessation from labor would relieve. My motto must now be that of the hatchments; "*Post funera quies.*" If we had peace, and retained this place, I should have wished to close my career with the arrangement of the colony; but I feel myself to be totally unequal to such a task, and shall certainly, if I live, return home in the course of next summer.—

—I beg my best remembrance to Lady Staunton and George, and that you will believe me, with great esteem and regard,

Dear Sir George,

very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXXXVII.

The same to the same.

Castle of Good Hope,
July 1, 1798.

Dear Sir George,

You have been very good in letting me have the pleasure of hearing from you frequently, and in giving me very just accounts, I believe, of what is passing in the European world. I fear it will be long before you will have it in your power to write very pleasant ones. At my time of life, and in my state of health, the only rational wish is to pass the remainder of my days in peace, but that is an event, I have little expectation to see; I doubt, indeed, whether it would be the interest of the temporary French rulers to agree to one, and I doubt whether our own could venture to trust them, if they did. I have carefully read the papers of the Lisle negociation, and have made up my mind upon the case of *France versus England.*

Mr. Barrow is returned from his northern tour, which completes his Hottentot travels, and I do believe no person, whether native or foreigner, has seen so much of the country, or seen it so well, and to such good purpose, as he has done. I imagine, his travels will be a great acquisition to the world; his map must be particularly valuable, as it is the only one that can at all be depended on. Every one that I have yet seen published is strikingly erroneous, and shamefully executed. Mr. Barrow says, that Vaillant's last book

of his travels is quite a romance, and composed merely as a job to get money by. The first is tolerably correct.

My health has for this month past been, in general, a good deal better, though, now and then, I feel such sudden short strokes of the gout in my head, and stomach, as alarm me very much. Unless I should have a regular fit soon, it is not unlikely that I may tip off in one of these arthritic spasms, and in truth, I think, it would be better so, than in a lingering mode.

We have heard here, that Mr. Frederick North is gone to Ceylon, as governor for the King. He did not stop here, and we have had no particulars of his appointment, or the footing on which it is to be. If we keep it at a peace, I think it should be put into the hands of the Company, and indeed this place also, if the terms can be agreed on.—The Cape to be sure, as not being connected, in the same manner as Ceylon, and as being the grand key of India, would probably not be given up to them without a high price, but I think it would be worth any price to the Company, whatever some individuals among them may pretend to think about it. The arrangement, and future government of these countries, will require some delicacy and address, for a time; but as Holland is now absorbed, and no longer Holland, the difficulties will be the less.—Very few of the Dutch here, indeed, have ever been in Europe, and our manners seem already to have effaced most of the original native impressions.—You and I have seen, at Grenada, the impossibility of English and French ever assimilating together. It is otherwise with regard to English and Dutch. The

latter have a different feeling towards us, and, if well managed, may amalgamate with us easily enough, but a Frenchman cannot bear our preponderance in the mass, and evaporates immediately if he cannot pervade.—Whatever may happen, I am persuaded that nine-tenths of the people would rather see an English, than a Jacobin flag fly here. They are however, most of them, honest enough to own, that they would rather see a Dutch one than either, although at the same time they admit that the Cape never was in so prosperous and flourishing a state, as since we have been in possession of it. It is nevertheless, pretty clear to most of them, that Holland is no longer a nation, and the most interested among them are now speculating how to chuse their country, when a peace takes place; for few doubt of the Cape being then ceded to us.—How that may be, I am sure I can't tell, but I believe we shall not part with it, except in the last necessity. If we keep it, I don't believe any will migrate from hence, that are worth retaining. I have indeed been always of opinion that it is better to have no subjects, than bad ones, or such as can't be made good.—But I am floundering into politics, which are ill explained in the narrow limits of a letter; I shall therefore reserve myself upon this subject, to our next meeting, which I hope will not be very distant.

I am,
dear Sir George,
very truly your's,
MACARTNEY.

CXXXVIII.

Sir George Leonard Staunton, Bart. to his Son.*

Upper Ryde, Isle of Wight,
June 19, 1799.

I have to tell you, my dear George, though it will be long, very long, before you can know it, that your dear mother and I passed the remainder of yesterday, after your departure, very tolerably.—After dinner we drove to St. Helen's, where we saw some of the ships, particularly the Hindostan, come to an anchor; and we were not without hope of finding means of some communication with it; but found soon afterwards that the fleet had sailed away. All rejoice at the continuance of the fair wind; and so ought I: Every thing will, I hope, turn out prosperously for you, and I still believe that I have fallen upon the best, or at least the most likely means of providing for your future happiness; but it is not the most happy for me, to be thus separated from you.—

—I do not, my dear George, forgive myself, for not sufficiently impressing upon your mind before you left us, that your mother and I both most heartily and sincerely wish that the moment you find yourself disgusted with your situation in China, you will leave

* The following paragraphs were extracted from the first of a series of eighteen letters, full of excellent and important instructions, which Sir George wrote to the Editor, during the last year and a half of his life. Nothing more, however, is attempted to be illustrated by this short extract, than the truly indulgent and affectionate manner in which his paternal advice and wishes were at all times conveyed.

it, and return to us. You may rest perfectly assured that you will meet from us a most hearty welcome, and that we shall not only be reconciled to, but rejoice at any step you take for your own satisfaction. We have, with economy, a sufficient fortune for you; and something may, and certainly will, turn up at home, or at least in Europe, that will add to your emolument and comfort. This letter will, I hope, not reach you too late; you are sure of our perfect approbation in any thing you do.

Your mother has received a letter from Lady Macartney, to enquire after us, on the occasion of your departure. We shall go in August to Bath. You were so desirous about my improving my health, as to beg I would go there every year. I shall not be indifferent about what you are so kindly anxious for.

Young Mr. ——— keeps a journal, as you do. It is a practice highly useful, and ought to be continued; there is however no general rule without an exception; much fatigue or occupation may justly prevent it.—There is nothing which I recommend to you, but you may have sufficient reason for not doing: and if not done, I shall always suppose you right, and be satisfied. One person cannot do all that might be supposed good to do, and must therefore decline some part. It will be good to improve in the Chinese, both with a view to the time you may remain in the country, and to the advantage and credit of it afterwards: but I do not pretend to lay down rules for what is to be done by you. Your own good sense and prudence will direct you for the best. All I beg is, that you will not exert yourself too much, for fear of affecting your health.

Mr. ——— has lately purchased the seat of ———. You, my dear George, will not stay in China to acquire as much as he has done, but you will finally return, I hope, with a competent fortune, and the acquisition of so much knowledge, as will give you an eclat here peculiar to yourself. The addition of my fortune will come to you, dignified by your own character, as well as title and good family. May my wishes for you be gratified to the utmost extent, and you be substantially happy! and good! This is the anxious and constant prayer of your most affectionate father,

GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON.

CXXXIX.

Earl Macartney to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Petersham, Oct. 1800.

Dear Sir George,

I am very much obliged to you for the papers relative to the accident at Canton, which together with George's letter to me, I communicated to Mr. Dundas and my Lord Spencer, who are extremely pleased with them.—I should have returned them to you sooner, but I did not receive them back till last night. Lord S. was already acquainted with the affair, by his letters from Canton, but Mr. D. had heard nothing of the particulars before.—I have not yet been able to see him, as I understand that there are long cabinets held every day. I fancy the present state of things is not a little embarrassing.—George's letter to you is very masterly, and must make all his friends happy. Very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXL.

Earl Macartney to George Thomas Staunton, esq.

Petersham, Nov. 1800.

Dear George,

I am very much obliged to you for your letter from Canton, of the 27th of March, and feel very happy at the good accounts we have received of your health and welfare since you left us. Your father has been so kind as to let me see some of your letters to him, and particularly the last, which inclosed a detail of the late affair at Canton, in which you had an opportunity of distinguishing yourself by your skill and abilities. I have no doubt, that you will have frequent occasions to render your country essential service by your knowledge of the Chinese language, and you will consequently rejoice at having given so much of your attention to it. It is indeed an advantage, which of all Englishmen, you alone possess, and which cannot fail of contributing materially to the advancement of your fortunes, and your reputation in the world: I am therefore sure, that nothing will divert you from persevering to improve and perfect yourself in so important an acquirement.

The bishop of Dromore, who some years ago translated from the Portuguese, and published a Chinese Novel, called, I think, *the Pleasing History*, has lately written to me on the subject of it. I enclose to you his two letters, with my answer to his first, and shall take it as a particular favor, if you will be so good as to make some enquiry about the original work in Chinese,

and let me know the result. I almost forget what we heard upon that subject, when we were in China, and my note relative to it is mislaid.

Lady Staunton seems to be very well in health at present, but I am sorry to say that her spirits are not so good, as we could wish. We cannot indeed expect that they should, as she has the daily view of your dear father's declining state before her eyes. His intellects remain as perfectly clear as ever, but I am sincerely grieved to observe a gradual decay of his bodily health, every time I see him. He does not appear to be in any immediate danger, but I can scarcely flatter myself with any sanguine hopes of his recovery.

Lady Macartney desires to be very kindly remembered to you, and joins me in a thousand thanks to you for the fine tea, which you have been so obliging as to send us.—I have been much indisposed for a considerable time past, but trust that the good air of this place will soon recruit me a little. As I go to town but seldom, and am not yet able to mix much in society, I am but ill qualified to entertain you with news at present, and shall not therefore extend this letter farther than to request you to remember me to Mr. Drummond, Mr. Baring, and the other gentlemen, whom I had the pleasure of knowing at Canton, and to assure you of those sentiments of esteem and regard with which I am,

dear George,

very sincerely your's,

MACARTNEY.

CXLI.

Sir George L. Staunton, Bart. to B. C. Collins, esq.
(Anno Ætatis, 64.)

Devonshire Street, Jan. 2nd, 1801.

Though, in addition to my other complaints, I have sore eyes, I cannot any longer defer acknowledging your kind and affectionate letter.—Your Salisbury friends cannot but rejoice at having you among them, and I cannot repine at it. You would have had a disagreeable task in consoling Mr. Ward, were you in town: his wife is no more. Your niece is very happy with her aunt. She reads too, uncommonly well. She enjoys London very much, as far as she has seen hitherto.

The new parliament designs, it is said, great things. Provisions will not soon be cheaper, notwithstanding the efforts of ministers; and the prospect is melancholy. In the mean time, the enemy is victorious; the prospect is really gloomy.

Mr. Barrow's book is at last finished. It will be published in a few days. My best respects to Mrs. Collins, &c.

Your's ever,
GEORGE LEONARD STAUNTON*.

* The above letter is believed to be the last which Sir George ever wrote; as he died on the 14th of the same month. It proves, that even when in the last stage of bodily infirmity, and while labouring under a disease, a paralytic affection, which almost invariably impairs the intellect, neither the powers of his mind, nor the affections of his heart, suffered any abatement.

CXLII.

Earl Macartney to Sir George L. Staunton, Bart.

Curzon Street, Jan. 12th, 1801.

Dear Sir George,

If it be not too late to cancel the sheets, as we now know to whom Mr. Barrow wishes his work to be addrest, I should think the dedication to George should be prefixed to it. Barrow's feelings are more likely to be gratified by inscribing it to his young friend, than his hopes would be raised by presenting it to an old statesman.

I have heard confused accounts of strange doings at the Cape, but I know nothing from authority; as little does my friend Barrow know of things here, when he supposes me to have any credit or influence.—

Dear Sir George,

very sincerely your's.

MACARTNEY.

CXLIII.

Benj. C. Collins, esq. to Sir George T. Staunton, Bart.

Devonshire Street, Jan. 29th, 1801.

My dearest Nephew,

An overland dispatch gives your dear mother and me an opportunity to write to you, but your dear, affectionate father, cannot write, for the causes which I will relate—first praying of God, that this may meet you in all health and prosperity.

You but too well know, that your dearest father had been much shaken with the palsy and gout, long 'ere you left England; he has continued much the same (and without pain) until latterly; save that, from his receipt of your good letters, his mind has been most happy and tranquil. The last summer, with us here, was the most sultry, and unhealthy, known for very many years, and his constitution became by it very much weakened; so that latterly, like most other persons in the decline of life, he pleasantly dozed away a great part of his time, when not employed in other matters, and in reading or hearing the papers, or in taking his meals; which, until about three weeks past, he enjoyed very much. After this period, his appetite fell off, and his desire for sleep increased very much; so that, like my own dear father, he gradually, and most gently, reposed in the arms and bosom of our Almighty, and most beneficent, and universal Parent! Dr. Blane, and other medical advice attended; but gentle Nature had reached her envied home, and would no longer be denied the great reward of Eternal Bliss to the soul of this, her favorite, from his cradle.—"His glorious sun has made a golden set"—for never did so good a man quit this transitory life, with a more honored and truly respected name. A most grateful cordial this, to you, and to your dear mother, grandmother, to me, and all around us.—All that the mighty, and now expanded soul, has left us, was, on Friday last, most respectfully attended, and deposited in a large, handsome, vaulted grave, near to the altar in Westminster Abbey—Earl Macartney has got leave for your return home, in the most liberal manner. I

greatly regret that my limits will not permit my now writing more, than this, my earnest prayer; that, in the duty you owe to God, to your dear mother, and to yourself, you will call up your fortitude, and that you will chearfully encourage the resignation of of your superior mind to this dispensation of infinite wisdom, goodness, and mercy. A short term of years, and we shall all meet to part no more. May God protect, and preserve you now, and ever, and safely speed your return, to the arms of your dear mother, to me, and to the host of affectionate friends awaiting you.

I am, my dear Sir George,

your very affectionate uncle,

B. C. Collins.

CXLIV.

Earl Macartney to the same.

London, Feb. 3d, 1801.

Dear Sir George,

As lady Staunton writes to you by this opportunity (which is, I believe, the earliest) and communicates to you the late very melancholy event that has happened in your family, it would be equally distressing to you, and painful to myself, were I to dwell upon that subject. It is however proper that I should mention, that, by your dear father's will, you, Mr. Piggott, Mr. Lynch, and myself, were appointed his executors, and that upon consulting with Mr. Piggott, (whose attachment to your mother and to you is not less strong than mine) he and I thought that it would, on every account, be most for both your

interests, that we should decline acting, that your mother should take out letters of administration, and under these circumstances, await your return to England; at which time, you will probably be of full age, may then prove the will yourself, as sole acting executor, and take such measures in your affairs, as you shall judge expedient. In the mean while, Mr. Piggott and I shall be ready to give to Lady Staunton every advice and assistance, should she have occasion for any, in order to promote your interest, or regulate her proceedings. She will therefore remain in the house in Devonshire Street, till your return from China, which we hope will be by the same ship (Captain Millet's) which conveyed you thither.—I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the court of directors made no difficulty in granting you permission to come to England immediately, without prejudice to your situation, and have signified the same in their public letter to Canton now despatched.

I flatter myself that your father's disposition of his fortune will be agreeable to you, and that you will find your situation and circumstances, in consequence of it, perfectly conformable to the expectations which you had naturally formed upon that point.—Wishing you a pleasant voyage, and a happy return to your country and friends, and assuring you of my earnest desire to supply to you, as far as in my power, the place of your excellent father, I remain, with the truest esteem and regard, my dear Sir George,

your most sincere friend,
and faithful humble servant,
MACARTNEY.

CXLV.

Arthur Piggott, esq. (afterwards Sir A. P.) to the same.

London, Thursday, 5th Feb. 1801.

My dear Sir,

Before you will open this letter, you will have been informed of the irreparable loss which you have sustained in the death of your late most affectionate and excellent father. The particulars of an event so afflicting to you, you will receive from your amiable and distressed mother; and all the consolation which I have to impart, is derived from the reflection, that had nature prolonged the life of a parent so dear and interesting to you, it would probably have been upon such hard conditions of endurance, as would have made life rather to be tolerated than enjoyed. You must seek in your own enlightened and virtuous mind, so fertile of resources, for remedies against this most painful separation from one of the best and most tender of parents, whose thoughts and actions had you, your welfare, and happiness, for their object. And I doubt not, that your duty and affection to your mother will furnish you with motives sufficiently powerful to enable you to sustain with fortitude this great shock to your feelings, and to return in health to her, as it is the wish of all your friends you should do, as soon as the voyage is practicable, which we are told will be about the middle of next year.

Lady Staunton is to send you a copy of your father's will, by which you will observe that, besides the ab-

solute interest you will take in his real estate, on your attaining the age of twenty-one years, you are appointed his residuary legatee: so that you are intitled to all his personal estate, subject only to such legacies as he has left, of which the provision he has made for Lady Staunton is almost the only one. The residue of his personal estate therefore vests immediately in you; and of that you have consequently, immediately, power by law to appoint, by making a will, who shall enjoy it, in case (in the uncertainty of human events) any premature accident, which God avert! should befal you. A will of personal estate, which does not require any particular form, will be valid, though made before you attain twenty-one; as a will of real estate, will also be, at any time after you attain twenty-one; but this last, namely a will which disposes of real estate, must be executed in the presence of *three* witnesses; and a will of personal estate, you may not only now make, but you may at any time, and as often as you please, revoke or alter before twenty-one.

On your return, you can qualify as an executor, which you are nominated by your father's will: and as the execution of his will is so entirely a family concern, as to render any extraneous interference quite unnecessary, Lord Macartney and myself have not thought it incumbent on us to qualify as executors, but have recommended to Lady Staunton to take out letters of administration, with the will annexed; and that she will do: and should any thing occur, which is not probable, to make any advice or assistance from Lord Macartney or me necessary to her, before you

give her the comfort and consolation of your presence in England, she will be certain of having it.

Mrs. Piggott desires me to convey to you every good wish of her heart: and, with the truest sentiments of regard and esteem, I am,

my dear Sir,
your very faithful
and affectionate humble servant,
A. PIGGOTT.

CXLVI.

John Christian Hüttner, esq. to the same.

London, May 5th, 1801.

My dear Sir,

A few days ago I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 28th of May of last year, which I read with uncommon satisfaction. The same was felt by all, to whom I shewed it—and I took a pride in shewing it to many.

I shall not dwell upon the melancholy event of which, by the time you receive this, you must be fully informed. On your account, it was not immediately mentioned in the papers. But a week after, a paragraph in the Courier broke the news to me—I was thunder-struck, having waited on your worthy father but a few days before his dissolution. I hastened to Devonshire street—It was the eve of his burial.—The housekeeper told me the particulars, and I had at least the melancholy satisfaction of walking round the plumed coffin, for a quarter of an hour. It was in

the library, where I had often conversed with one of the most worthy and sensible men that ever lived.—He died with great composure, and fortitude, arising from a life well spent, and not disturbed by any stings of conscience, as I am sure he never erred from design; on the contrary, he was the first to blame himself when his temper had hurried him into any unkind expression. I am happy to think that he entertained favorable sentiments towards me; he certainly honored me, more than once, with a visit in Norfolk Street, and the chief topic, as you may well think, was his dear son, whose letters he carried about him like treasures—Well he might, for they contained the unsuspected testimonials of your having really become, what, from the day he learnt your existence, he had resolved you should. Many had sneered at his plan of your education, and had vexed him by silly commonplace remarks: but the letters from China, since your departure, shewed that his labors, his day and midnight thoughts, had now produced the fairest fruit.—Peace be to his ashes! I know his memory will ever be dear to you, and so it shall to me, for at one time I had much of his confidence.—

I look forward with great pleasure to the moment of your return to England—and hope in about a year hence to be able to tell you in person, how much I am,

my dear Sir,

your sincere friend and servant,

JOHN CHRISTIAN HUTTNER.

CXLVII.

John Barrow, esq. to Sir George T. Staunton, Bart.

Cape of Good Hope,
14th July, 1801.

My dear Sir George,

I have every reason to think that long before my letter reaches China, you will have been made acquainted with the sorrowful event, that has deprived you of the tenderest and best of parents, and me of the sincerest of friends—I am well aware that expressions of condolence on such occasions can at best but administer a melancholy kind of comfort, and I well know also that your good sense, and manly resolution in submitting without a murmur to a separation from all you held dear, because it was considered by them of the first importance to your future welfare, will bear you through the present trial. It is an amiable weakness of human nature to mourn for the loss of departed friends, though a final separation at one time or another is the certain lot of all mankind, but grief indulged beyond measure, is a crime against society, because it not only unfits us for all intercourse with the world, but prevents us from fulfilling the duties of our proper sphere. You, my dear friend, have every reason to be grateful that the life of your worthy parent was prolonged, till he had the opportunity of placing you in a situation that will, in a very few years, enable you to fill that station of life to which your talents will call you, with comfort to yourself, and satisfaction

to your friends. Under this consideration, I hope and trust, that however strong your intentions may be to visit Europe at this time, you will not lose sight of your interest, which I am given to understand would be very materially injured by a premature departure from your residence in China.—

My book, I find, is published, and one single copy has reached this place.—I wished very much to inscribe it to you, in a short dedication; but in this I was overruled by your father and Lord Macartney, who insisted upon its being inscribed to Mr. Dundas, which has accordingly been done—so intent were these, my best friends, to promote my interests! We are just now particularly busy in preparing dispatches for England, there having for the three months past no conveyance offered for Europe; I must therefore conclude my hasty scrawl, with best wishes for your health and prosperity, and assurances of being

very truly your's,

JOHN BARROW.

CXLVIII.

John Hudleston, esq. to the Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

London, May 31, 1818.

EXTRACT.

" The late Sir George Staunton (the second commissioner) was sent home with the dispatches, which announced to the court the restoration of general peace in India, and for his share in the labours which effected

it; and I ought to add, not for *that* alone, but for the other zealous and able services which he rendered in the capacity of Lord Macartney's private secretary, without salary, and uniformly rejecting every other source of emolument, he was justly rewarded with a pension of £500 per annum by the court of directors, and was created a Baronet by His Majesty—And here I feel it due to the memory of Sir George Staunton, who is not living to answer for himself, to state a part of his conduct on the service in question, which appears at the close of the recorded proceedings, namely, that the presents which he received from Tippoo Sultan, on the occasion of his signing the treaty of peace, as well as those he had previously received from Meer Mehudeen Cawn, Tippoo's general in the Carnatic, and those which were subsequently made to him by the Bibby, or Queen, of Cannanore, were all deposited by Sir George Staunton in the public treasury as the property of the company, and there remained as such. The same conduct in any other individual employed in the Embassy would have had no merit, as the salary and emoluments of each were going on at the presidency; but as a member of the commission, who had salary neither in that capacity, nor in any other, it was a feature that can hardly be considered unworthy of notice."

JOHN HUDLESTON.

CXLIX.

Extract from the Speech of Randle Jackson, esq. in the Court of East-India Proprietors, on the 16th December, 1818, as reported in the Asiatic Journal, for January, 1819.

"The person (continued Mr. Jackson) who now addresses the court, had likewise the pleasure of knowing Sir George Staunton; and his character could not be better described, than by saying that he was a man far above even harbouring the thought of a mean, a sinister, or a sordid motive. That he was above a base or sordid feeling, their own vote would sufficiently show, for they had granted him a pension of £500 a year, as a reward for his disinterested conduct; this they had done to mark the grateful sense they entertained of his upright and generous behaviour, although he was not in their service, and therefore did not come within the ordinary rule by which presents were regulated. He refused to receive any on his own account from the native princes; but, with a noble self-denial, had caused them to be carried to the Company's treasury. In every point of view his character was most estimable."

CL.

John Symmons, esq. of Ewhurst Park, Hants, to Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart.

Paddington House, Feb. 8th, 1823.

My dear Sir George,

As in one of our last conversations you expressed an intention of sketching a memoir of your late most worthy, and estimable parent, I think it right to send you something of the like description, just sent me by my friend, Mr. N. Carlisle, who has traced his family from its earliest known origin, and shown in what manner such a work should be composed. Your's, however, if carried into effect, would be of a somewhat different description, as most of those collateral branches would probably be slightly passed over, and the whole, or nearly the whole, confined to the principal object, viz. the late Sir George Staunton's life, and fortunes, which alone would furnish all the necessary materials for an interesting memoir. Though of an ancient and respectable family, all that was most excellent, and worthy of notice in my worthy friend, was derived wholly from himself; nor would he have condescended to the acceptance of honors from any other source, than that of real personal desert, which, had life and health been prolonged to him, might have raised him to the highest dignities of the state, and not improbably obtained a coronet

for his family. My acquaintance with him commenced in early life, considerably more than half a century ago, when we met almost daily at George's coffee house, whence, after dinner, we generally proceeded to the Society of Arts in the Adelphi, where he almost constantly took part in the debates, though sometimes on subjects with which he modestly professed himself imperfectly acquainted. This, he said, he did to accustom himself to public speaking, and overcome a certain natural impediment of speech, of which it was strongly his desire to rid himself. We afterwards lost sight of each other for years, passed by him in busy and eminent stations in the West and East Indies, and by myself in the quieter enjoyments of private life, seldom beyond the limits of this Island. Of France, Switzerland, and a part of Germany indeed, I made the tour, but the whole did not occupy more than a couple of years, the remainder of my quiet and undisturbed existence being spent on my property in Wales, where the pursuits of agriculture, and the ordinary pleasures of the field, enabled me to pass some years in tolerable ease and comfort, whilst your father, principally assisting the political views of the state in both Hemispheres, was gaining laurels for himself, and laying the foundation of an ample fortune for you in the service of government, and the East-India Company. Let me therefore by all means encourage your intentions, as to the projected memoir in question, which I know will redound to your own, and your illustrious parent's honor, and at the same time most

highly gratify, not only your own, and his very particular connections, but prove singularly acceptable to the public.

Excuse the length of this letter, and believe me always, what I really am,

my dear Sir George,
your faithful friend and servant,
JOHN SYMMONS.

THE END.

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